

A
SERIES
OF
ORIGINAL PORTRAITS
AND
CARICATURE ETCHINGS,

BY THE LATE

JOHN KAY,
MINIATURE PAINTER, EDINBURGH;

WITH

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES AND ILLUSTRATIVE
ANECDOTES.

VOL. I. PART I.



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HUGH PATON, CARVER AND GILDER
To Her Majesty Queen Victoria,
AND HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUCHESS OF KENT.

MDCCCXXXVIII.

In A.L.A. Jersey

INTRODUCTORY NOTICE.

THE Works of the late JOHN KAY illustrate an interesting epoch in the history of the Scottish capital. Throughout the greater part of half a century the Artist devoted himself with enthusiasm to his novel undertaking; and while he contributed in no common degree to gratify and amuse the public of his own day, his graphic productions form a record which cannot fail to prove peculiarly acceptable in after times.

Although the Etchings may not be entitled to rank high in the scale of art, they are nevertheless valuable as the unaided efforts of one who owed nothing to adventitious circumstances—while the general accuracy for which the Portraits are distinguished is a merit peculiarly his own. The intuitive facility of the Artist's pencil in this way must appear incredible, when it is known that, with few exceptions, they were executed from casual observation—the impression probably of a passing glance. Indeed, in many instances, they could not have been otherwise obtained.

Kay appears to have long entertained the idea of giving his Works to the world in a more permanent form. So early as 1792—aided, we believe, by a person of the name of Callender*—he had drawn up notes descriptive of the Prints, with a biographical notice of his own life. The want of pecuniary means probably formed the great obstacle to the execution of his plan; and the venerable caricaturist died at the age of eighty-four without having lived long enough to be gratified by the realization of his wishes. His widow made several unsuccessful proposals for the

* Very little is known respecting Callender. He was a dabbler in politics, and is understood to have emigrated to America. In the Life of Dr James Anderson (see *Chambers' Scot. Biog. Dic.*) some notice is taken of him in connection with an occurrence not much to his credit.

disposal of the plates; and, after her death, having been brought to public sale by her trustees, they fell into the hands of the present Publisher.

In carrying the intentions of the Caricaturist into effect, no exertion has been spared to render the work as varied and interesting as possible. The notes furnished by Kay and his assistant having been found exceedingly meagre and inaccurate, the difficulty of collecting materials may be conceived; yet the Publisher would be wanting in courtesy did he not acknowledge—and he does so with pleasure—how much the labour has been lessened by the efforts of voluntary contributors. Indeed, the liberality he has experienced in this respect, and the disinterested manner in which many of the literary and antiquarian gentlemen of Edinburgh have vouchsafed their countenance and aid, is such as to call forth the warmest expressions of gratitude. Difficult as the task may have been, a few years delay would have rendered it much more so. The events to which many of the Engravings allude were fast receding into oblivion, and are only to be traced in the remembrance of a few old citizens, whose memories—uninterested by the daily occurrences around them—cling tenaciously to the past.

It has been urged by some that a stricter attention to chronology ought to have been observed. The Publisher is perfectly aware of the force of this observation; but a strict adherence to dates would have occasioned an interminable delay in the progress of the work, without producing any corresponding advantage; while, by the plan adopted, greater variety has been afforded than could otherwise have been obtained. Besides, a classed Index will be given at the conclusion of the Work, which it is hoped will supply any supposed defect of arrangement.

November 1837.

NOTICE.

WITH this, the concluding Part, I feel called upon to express, in the warmest manner, the sense I entertain of the very flattering encouragement which has been extended to the Work. To my numerous and highly respectable Subscribers, who, coming forward in almost every instance unsolicited, have patronized the undertaking by their countenance and support, I beg to offer my most sincere thanks. From the length of time which has elapsed since the commencement of the Publication, their patience has no doubt been fully exercised; yet I cannot accuse myself of any unnecessary delay in its progress through the press. The nature of the Work—the almost insurmountable difficulty, in many instances, of obtaining correct information—and the research which its pages display, will, I trust, be apology sufficient for the protracted period of completion. It will be observed, however, on referring to the Prospectus, that the engagement to publish in *monthly Parts* has not been exceeded; but that, on the contrary, several months are anticipated. Such has been my anxiety to have the Biographical Sketches complete, that the Letterpress has been extended to nearly double of what was originally stipulated to be given. This, of course, has been accomplished at much additional expense on my part, without any extra charge to the Subscribers; but, stimulated by the desire to render the Work not less valuable than curious, I feel gratified by the approval so generally accorded, and the prospect that a still increasing demand will amply repay my outlay of capital.

To those who have kindly supplied family information, and to the several literary and antiquarian gentlemen whom I have had occasion to consult, and who have, with much liberality, contributed to the historical, traditional, and local interest of the Work, my acknowledgments are due in an especial degree.

It is to be regretted that a few Etchings by Kay have not been inserted in this Collection. During the life of the Artist some of them were disposed of to the parties interested, either because, as good likenesses, they

wished to possess them—or, if offensive, that they might be withdrawn from the public. In this way several desirable productions of his pencil are awaiting; but, from advances made by one or two individuals on the subject, in whose possession some of the Plates are, I am hopeful that a few additions may yet be made to the Collection. These, together with a number of original *Drawings* by Kay, and from which I have been strongly urged to take Engravings, I may possibly be induced, at some future period, to publish as a SUPPLEMENT to the present Volumes.

It may be well here to state that, in accordance with an early formed resolution, I have throughout the Work been most careful to avoid whatever might prove offensive either politically or personally. This, it will readily be conceived, from the nature of many of the subjects, was a task of no easy performance. I flatter myself, however, that I have so far succeeded in this respect as almost to disarm censure; while in no instance am I aware of having stated facts without duly weighing the authority upon which these are given. To have produced a work of similar magnitude, and of a description so diversified, entirely free from error, or beyond the reach of criticism, is what no one will pretend to; and I trust the utmost allowance will be conceded.

HUGH PATON.

Edinburgh, December 1838.

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JOHN KAY

Drawn & Engraved by Himself 1786.

ORIGINAL PORTRAITS,

&c. &c.

No. I.

MR JOHN KAY,

CARICATURIST, ENGRAVER, AND MINIATURE PAINTER,

DRAWN BY HIMSELF, 1786.

THE following sketch of the life of John Kay was written by himself, with the view, it is believed, of being prefixed to a collection of his works which he had projected :—

“JOHN KAY, the author of these Prints, was born in April 1742, in a small house a little south from Dalkeith, commonly called Gibraltar. His father, Mr John Kay, was a mason in Dalkeith, as well as his two paternal uncles, James and Norman Kay. His mother, Helen Alexander, was heiress to many tenements in Edinburgh and Canongate, out of which she was tricked by the circumvention of some of her own relations.

“She had still so much confidence in these relations, however, that upon the death of her husband in 1748, she boarded her only son John, then only six years of age, with one of them, who used him extremely ill, and not only neglected, but beat and starved him. While he lived with these savages in Leith, he run various risks of his life from accidents without doors, as well as from bad usage within ; and there is every reason to believe that they really wished his death, and took every method to accomplish it except downright murder. On one occasion he was blown into the sea from the Ferry-boat Stairs, and on another he fell into the water on stepping across the joists below the Wooden Pier, but recovered himself both times, by grasping the steps on the one occasion, and the joists on the other. But he ran a still greater risk of drowning upon a third occasion, when, happening to be seated on the side of a ship in the harbour, he was accidentally pushed overboard, and being taken up for dead, remained in that condition for some time, till one of the sailors, anxious to see him, in his hurry trampled upon his belly, which immediately excited a groan,

▲

and produced respiration and articulation. He might have died, however, that same evening, had not other people taken more care of him than his barbarous relations did.

“ About this time he gave strong proofs of an uncommon genius for drawing, by sketching men, horses, cattle, houses, &c., with chalk, charcoal, or pieces of burnt wood, for want of pencils and crayons. But under the government of his cousins, no propensity of this kind was either attended to or encouraged. And, though he himself wished rather to be a mason, the profession of his father and uncles, yet, by some fatality or other, it happened that he was bound apprentice to one George Heriot, a barber in Dalkeith, about the age of thirteen or little more.

“ With this honest man he learned his business, and served six years, during which time, although he did every kind of drudgery work, he was perfectly happy in comparison of the state of tyranny under which he had so long groaned at Leith. When his time was out he came to Edinburgh, where he wrought seven years as a journeyman with different masters, after which he began to think of doing business for himself; but not having the freedom of the city, he was obliged to purchase it from the Society of Surgeon-Barbers, of which corporation he accordingly became a member the 19th December 1771, upon paying about L.40 sterling.

“ This business he carried on with great success for several years, being employed by a number of the principal nobility and gentry in and about Edinburgh. Among other genteel customers, he was employed by the late William Nisbet, Esq. of Dirleton, who not only employed him in town, but also took him various jaunts through the country with him in his machine; and at last became so fond of him, that for several years before he died, particularly the two last, (1783 and 1784,) he had him almost constantly with him, by night and by day.

“ The leisure time he had on these occasions, while he lodged at Mr Nisbet's house, afforded him an opportunity, which he took care not to neglect, of gratifying the natural propensity of his genius, by improving himself in drawing; and Mr Nisbet having approved of his exertions, and encouraged him in the pursuit, he executed at this time a great number of miniature paintings—some of which are still in the possession of the family of Dirleton, and the greater part in his own.

“ It should have been mentioned earlier in the order of chronology, that our hero married, so early as the twentieth year of his age, Miss Lilly Steven, who bore him ten children, all of whom died young except his eldest son, William, who was named after Mr Nisbet, and who seems to inherit his father's talent for drawing. Mrs Kay died in March 1785, and after living upwards of two years a widower, our hero married his present wife, Miss Margaret Scott, with whom he now lives very happily.

“ Mr Nisbet of Dirleton, previous to his death, sensible that, by occupying so much of Mr Kay's time, he could not but hurt his business, although he sent money regularly to Mrs Kay, had often promised to make him amends by settling

a genteel annuity upon him. This, however, from his debilitated habit of body, was delayed from time to time, till death put it out of his power. But, to the honour of his heir, he was so sensible of Mr Kay's good offices to his father, as well as of his father's intentions, that he voluntarily made a settlement of L.20 per annum for life upon him.

"After the death of his patron, our author attempted to etch in aquafortis, and having published some of his Prints executed in this way, he met with so much unexpected success, that he at last determined to drop his old profession altogether, which he did accordingly in 1785.

"Our author has drawn himself, in this Print, sitting in a thoughtful posture, in an antiquated chair, (whereby he means to represent his love of antiquities,) with his favourite cat (the largest it is believed in Scotland) sitting upon the back of it; several pictures hanging behind him; a bust of Homer, with his painting utensils on the table before him, a scroll of paper in his hand, and a volume of his works upon his knee."

Mr Kay continued from the above period till about the year 1817 to exercise his talents in engraving. For a period of nearly half a century, few persons of any notoriety who figured in the Scottish capital have escaped his notice, and he has occasionally indulged himself in caricaturing such local incidents as might amuse the public.

In this way he has formed a collection altogether unique; and we concur with Mr Chambers* in thinking, that "it may with safety be affirmed that no city in the empire can boast of so curious a chronicle." It is right, in addition to this, to mention that his etchings are universally admitted to possess one merit, which of itself stamps them with value, namely, that of being exact and faithful likenesses of the parties intended to be represented.

The emoluments derived from his engravings and painting miniature likenesses in water colours, together with the annuity from the Dirleton family, regularly paid by Sir Henry Jardine, rendered him tolerably independent.

He had a small print-shop on the south side of the Parliament Square, in which he sold his productions, and the windows of which, being always filled with his more recent works, used to be a great attraction to the idlers of the time. It was, with the rest of the old buildings in the square, destroyed by the great fire in November 1824.

In his outward appearance he was a slender, straight old man, of middle size, and usually dressed in a garb of antique cut, of simple habits, and quiet unassuming manners. He died at his house, No. 227, High Street, Edinburgh, 21st February 1826, in the eighty-fourth year of his age. His widow survived him upwards of nine years; her death took place in November 1835. The son alluded to by Mr Kay in his biography, predeceased his father.

* "Biographical Dictionary of Illustrrious Scotsmen."

No. II.—**A Triumvirate.****THE DAFT HIGHLAND LAIRD.****JOHN DHU, OR DOW, ALIAS MACDONALD.****AND JAMIE DUFF, AN IDIOT.**

THE first of these worthies, who is in the act of holding up a staff surmounted by the representation of a human head and face, was a gentleman by birth, his proper name and title being James Robertson of Kincaigie, in Perthshire. He was a determined Jacobite, and had been engaged in the Rebellion of 1745, for which he was confined in the Tolbooth of Edinburgh.

It was during this incarceration that the Laird exhibited those symptoms of derangement which subsequently caused him to obtain the *soubriquet* of the "Daft Highland Laird." His lunacy was first indicated by a series of splendid entertainments to all those who chose to come, no matter who they were.

His insanity and harmlessness having become known to the authorities, they discharged him from the jail, from which, however, he was no sooner ejected than he was pounced upon by his friends, who having cognosced him in the usual manner, his younger brother was, it is understood, appointed his curator or guardian. By this prudent measure his property was preserved against any attempts which might be made by designing persons, and an adequate yearly allowance was provided for his support. A moderate income having in this way been secured to the Laird, he was enabled to maintain the character of a deranged gentleman with some degree of respectability, and he enjoyed, from this time forward, a total immunity from all the cares of life. When we say, however, that the Laird was freed from all care and anxiety, we hazarded something more than the facts warrant. There was one darling wish of his heart that clung to him for many a day, which certainly it was not very easy to gratify. This was his extreme anxiety to be hanged, drawn, and quartered, as a rebel partisan of the house of Stuart, and a sworn and deadly foe to the reigning dynasty. He was sadly annoyed that nobody would put him in jail as a traitor, or attempt to bring him to trial. It would have been a partial alleviation of his grief, if he could have got any benevolent person to have accused him of treason. It was in vain that he drank healths to the Pretender—in vain that he bawled treason in the streets; there was not one who would lend a helping-hand to procure him the enjoyment of its pains and penalties.

The Laird, although he uniformly insisted on being a martyr to the cause of the Chevalier, seemed to feel that there was something wanting to complete his pretensions to that character—that it was hardly compatible with the unrestrained liberty he enjoyed, the ease and comfort in which he lived, and the total immunity from any kind of suffering which was permitted him; and hence his anxiety to bring down upon himself the vengeance of the law.



THREE EDINBURGH BUCKS

K. 1782



Failing, however, in every attempt to provoke the hostility of Government, and thinking, in his despair of success, that if he could once again get within the walls of a jail, it would be at any rate something gained; and that his incarceration might lead to the result he was so desirous of obtaining, he fell on the ingenious expedient of running in debt to his landlady, whom, by a threat of non-payment, he induced to incarcerate him. This delightful consummation accordingly took place, and the Laird was made happy by having so far got, as he imagined, on the road to martyrdom.

It was a very easy matter to get the Laird into jail, but it was by no means so easy a one to get him out again. Indeed, it was found next to impossible. No entreaties would prevail upon him to quit it, even after the debt for which he was imprisoned was paid. There he insisted on remaining until he should be regularly brought to trial for high treason. At last a stratagem was resorted to, to induce him to remove. One morning two soldiers of the Town-Guard appeared in his apartment in the prison, and informed him that they had come to escort him to the Justiciary Court, where the Judges were assembled, and waiting for his presence, that they might proceed with his trial for high treason.

Overjoyed with the delightful intelligence, the Laird instantly accompanied the soldiers down stairs, when the latter having got him fairly outside of the jail, locked the door to prevent his re-entering, and deliberately walked off, leaving the amazed and disappointed candidate for a halter, to reflect on the slippery trick that had just been played him.

The Laird, after this, having, it would seem, abandoned all hope of being hanged, betook himself to an amusement which continued to divert him during the remainder of his life. This was carving in wood, for which he had a talent, the heads of public personages, or of any others who became special objects of his dislike, and in some cases of those, too, for whom he entertained a directly opposite feeling; thus, amongst his collection were those of the Pretender, and several of his most noted adherents.

These little figures he stuck on the end of a staff or cane, which, as he walked about, he held up to public view. His enemies, or such as he believed to be such, were always done in a style of the most ridiculous caricature. The Laird exhibited a new figure every day of the year, and as this was expected of him, the question, "Wha hae ye up the day, Laird?" was frequently put to him, when he would readily give every information on the subject required.

When the print to which this notice refers was first exhibited, the Laird retaliated by mounting a caricature likeness of the limner on his staff; and when asked for the usual information demanded in such cases, "Don't you see it's the barber?" he would reply; "and wasn't it a wise thing of him, when drawing twa daft men, to put a sodger between them?" On another occasion, meeting the Honourable Henry Erskine one day as he was about to enter the Parliament House, of which the Laird was a great frequenter, the former inquired how he did: "Oh, very weel!" answered the Laird; "but I'll tell ye what, Harry, tak' in Justice wi' ye," pointing to one of the statues over the old porch

of the Parliament House, "for she has stood lang i' the outside, and it wad be a treat for her to see the inside, like other strangers!"

He was of a kindly and inoffensive disposition, and, in keeping with this character, was extremely fond of children, and of those young persons generally who treated him with becoming respect. For these he always carried about with him in his pocket a large supply of tops, *peeries*, and *tee-totums*, of his own manufacture, which he distributed liberally amongst them; while to adults he was equally generous in the articles of snuff and tobacco, giving these freely to all who chose to enter into conversation with him. The Laird was thus a general favourite with both young and old.

He resided on the Castlehill, and was most frequently to be seen there, and in the Grassmarket, Lawnmarket, and Bow-head.

He wore a cocked Highland bonnet, as represented in the picture, which is an admirable likeness, was handsome in person, and possessed of great bodily strength. He died in July 1790. He retained to his dying hour his allegiance to the House of Stuart; and, about two years before his demise, gave a decisive instance of it, by creating a disturbance at Bishop Abernethy Drummond's chapel, in consequence of the reverend gentleman and his congregation, who had previously been Nonjurants, praying for King George III.

JOHN DHU, the centre figure on the print, was, in the days of Mr Kay, a distinguished member of the Town-Guard, a band of civic militia, or armed police, which existed in Edinburgh till 1817, and of which some notice will be subsequently presented. John, a Highlander by birth, was conspicuous for his peculiarly robust and rough appearance, which was of itself as effectual in keeping the younger and more mischievous part of the population in awe, as any ten Lochaber axes in the corps. The author of *Waverley* speaks of him somewhere, as one of the fiercest-looking fellows he had ever seen. In facing the unruly mobs of those days, John had shown such a degree of valour as to impress the Magistrates with a high sense of his utility as a public servant. That such an image of military violence should have been necessary at the close of the eighteenth century, to protect the peace of a British city, presents us with a singular contrast of what we lately were, and what we have now become. On one occasion, about the time of the French Revolution, when the Town-Guard had been signalling the King's birth-day by firing in the Parliament Square, being unusually pressed and insulted by the populace, this undaunted warrior turned upon one peculiarly outrageous member of the democracy, and, with one blow of his battle-axe, laid him lifeless on the causeway.

With all this vigour in the execution of his duty, John Dhu is represented as having been, in reality, a kind-hearted man, exceedingly gentle and affectionate to his wife, and of so obliging a disposition, that he often did the duty of his brethren as well as his own, thereby frequently exposing himself to an amount of fatigue that few men could have borne.

JAMIE DUFF, the third figure in the print, was long conspicuous upon the streets of Edinburgh as a person of weak intellects, and of many grotesque peculiarities. He was the child of a poor widow who dwelt in the Cowgate, and was chiefly indebted for subsistence to the charity of those who were amused by his odd but harmless manners. This poor creature had a passion for attending funerals, and no solemnity of that kind could take place in the city without being graced by his presence. He usually took his place in front of the *saulies* or ushers, or, if they were wanting, at the head of the ordinary company; thus forming a kind of practical burlesque upon the whole ceremony, the toleration of which it is now difficult to account for. To Jamie himself, it must be allowed, it was as serious a matter as to any of the parties more immediately concerned. He was most scrupulous both as to costume and countenance, never appearing without crape, cravat, and weepers, and a look of downcast woe in the highest degree edifying. It is true the weepers were but of paper, and the cravat, as well as the general attire, in no very fair condition. He had all the merit, nevertheless, of good intention, which he displayed more particularly on the occurrence of funerals of unusual dignity, by going previously to a most respectable hatter, and getting his hat newly tintured with the dye of sorrow, and the crape arranged so as to hang a little lower down his back.

By keeping a sharp look-out after prospective funerals, Jamie succeeded in securing nearly all the enjoyment which the mortality of the city was capable of affording. It nevertheless chanced that one of some consequence escaped his vigilance. He was standing at the well drawing water, when, lo! a funeral procession, and a very stately one, appeared. What was to be done? He was wholly unprepared: he had neither crape nor weepers, and there was now no time to assume them; and moreover, and worse than all this, he was encumbered with a pair of "*stoups!*" It was a trying case; but Jamie's enthusiasm in the good cause overcame all difficulties. He stepped out, took his usual place in advance of the company, stoups and all, and, with one of these graceful appendages in each hand, moved on as chief usher of the procession. The funeral party did not proceed in the direction of any of the usual places of interment. It took quite a contrary direction. It left the town: this was odd! It held on its way: odder still! Mile after mile passed away, and still there was no appearance of a consummation. On and on the procession went, but Jamie, however surprised he might be at the unusual circumstance, manfully kept his post, and with indefatigable perseverance continued to lead on. In short, the procession never halted till it reached the seaside at Queensferry, a distance of about nine miles, where the party composing it embarked, coffin and all, leaving the poor fool on the shore, gazing after them with a most ludicrous stare of disappointment and amazement. Such a thing had never occurred to him before in the whole course of his experience.

Jamie's attendance at funerals, however, though unquestionably proceeding from a pure and disinterested passion for such ceremonies, was also a source of considerable emolument to him, as his spontaneous services were as regularly

paid for as those of the hired officials ; a *douceur* of a shilling, or half-a-crown being generally given on such occasions.

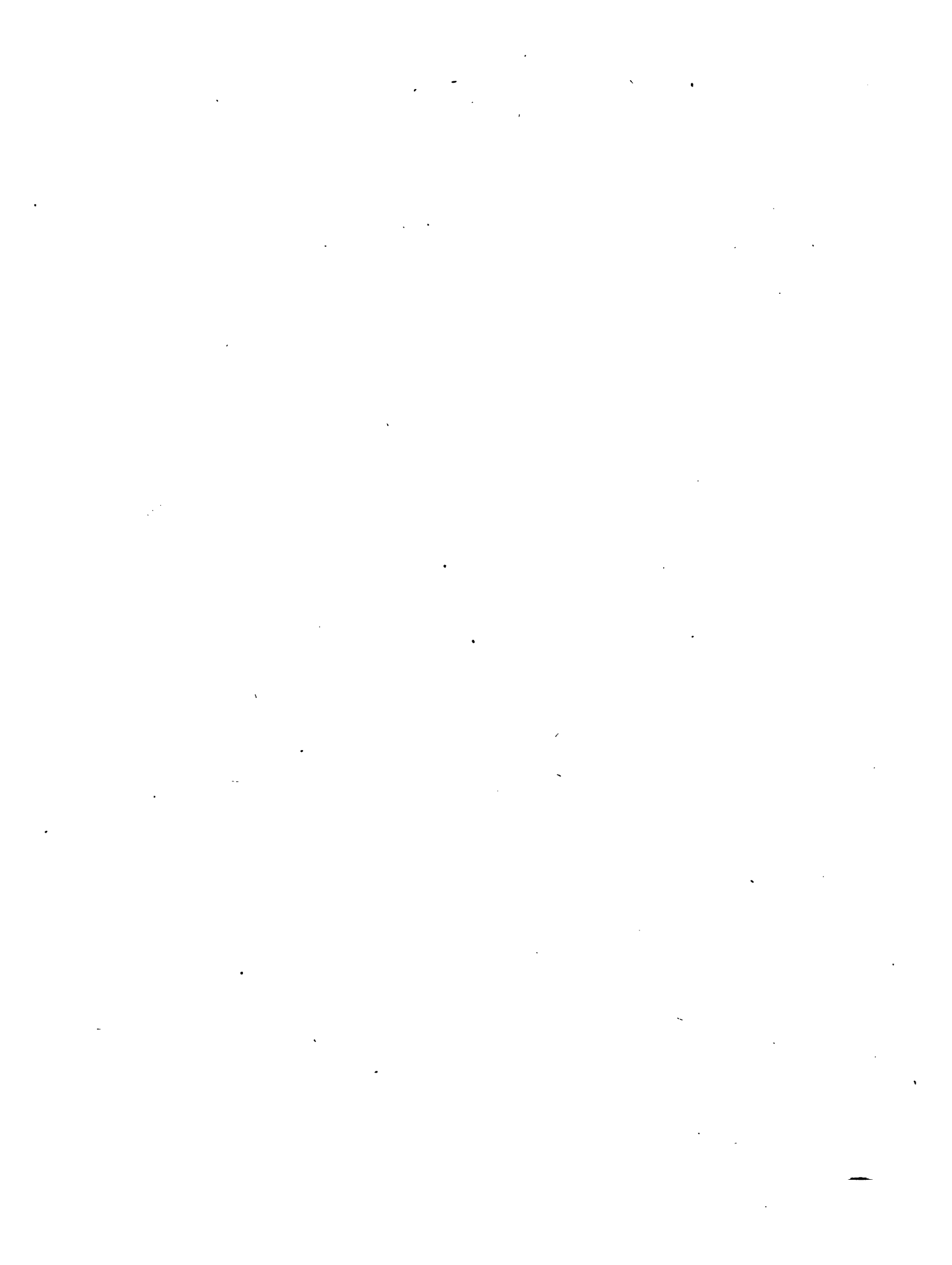
We come now to view the subject of our memoir as a civic dignitary—as Bailie Duff—a title which was given him by his contemporaries, and which posterity has recognised. The history of his elevation is short and simple. Jamie was smitten with the ambition of becoming a magistrate ; and at once, to realize his own notions on this subject, and to establish his claims to the envied dignity in the eyes of others, he procured and wore a brass medal and chain, in imitation of the gold insignia worn by the city magistrates, and completed his equipment by mounting a wig and cocked hat. Jamie now became a veritable bailie ; and his claims to the high honour—it gives us pleasure to record the fact—were cheerfully acknowledged.

At one period of the Bailie's magisterial career, however, his pretensions certainly were disputed by one individual ; and by whom does the reader imagine ? Why, by a genuine dignitary of corresponding rank—a member of the Town-Council ! This person was dreadfully shocked at this profanation of things sacred, and he ordered his brother-magistrate, Duff, to be deprived of his insignia, which was accordingly done. City politics running high at this time, this odd, and it may be added absurd, exercise of power, was unmercifully satirized by the local poets and painters of the day.

It may not be without interest to know that this poor innocent manifested much filial affection. To his mother he was ever kind and attentive, and so anxious for her comfort, that he would consume none of the edibles he collected, till he had carried them home, and allowed her an opportunity of partaking of them. So rigid was he in his adherence to this laudable rule, that he made no distinction between solids and fluids, but insisted on having all deposited in his pocket.

The Bailie, at one period, conceived a great aversion to silver money, from a fear of being enlisted ; and in order to make sure of escaping this danger, having no thirst whatever for military glory, he steadily refused all silver coin ; when his mother, discovering that his excessive caution in this matter had a serious effect on their casual income, got his nephew, a boy, to accompany him in the character of receiver-general and purse-bearer ; and by the institution of this officer, the difficulty was got over, and the Bailie relieved from all apprehension of enlistment.

He was tall and robust, with a shrinking, shambling gait, and usually wore his stockings hanging loose about his heels, as will be shown by a full-length portrait of him done by Kay at an after period. He never could speak distinctly, though it was remarked, that, when irritated, he could make a shift to swear. He died in 1788.





No. III.

FRANCIS M'NAB, ESQ. OF M'NAB.

SCOTLAND, about the close of the eighteenth century, contained few men of greater local notoriety than the herculean Highlander, whom Mr Kay has here represented in the act of reeling along the North Bridge, a little declined from the perpendicular. "The Laird of M'Nab," as he was commonly called, represented his clan at a time when the ancient peculiarities of the manners and ideas of a Highland chief were melting into an union with those of a Lowland gentleman. A strong dash of the primitive character, joined to much natural eccentricity, tended to make him a wonder in the midst of the cultivated society of his day. To complete the effect of his singular manners, his person was cast in one of nature's most gigantic moulds.

A volume, and that not a small one, might be filled with the curious sayings and doings of this singular gentleman; but unfortunately the greater part of them, for reasons which may be guessed, could not, with any degree of propriety, be laid before the public.

The Laird was remarkable, above all things, for his notions of the dignity of his chieftainship. A gentleman, who had come from a great distance to pay him a visit, either ignorant of, or forgetting the etiquette to be observed in speaking to or of a Highland chieftain, inquired if *Mr* M'Nab was within?—"Mr" being a contemptible Saxon prefix, applied to every one who wears a passable coat, and well enough probably in the case of those ignoble persons who earn their bread by a profession, but not at all fit to be attached to the name of a Highland chief. The consequence of this error of the Laird's visiter was, that he was refused admittance—a fact the more astonishing to himself, as he distinctly heard the Laird's voice in the lobby. In explanation of his blunder, he was told by a friend that he should have inquired, not for *Mr* M'Nab, but for the *Laird* of M'Nab, or simply M'Nab, by way of eminence. Acting on this hint, he called on the following day, and was not only admitted, but received with a most cordial and hearty welcome.

Of the Laird's literary attainments, some anecdotes have found their way into the jest-books. In one of these he is represented as laying the blame of certain orthographical errors with which he was charged on one occasion, to the badness of his pen, triumphantly asking his accuser, "Wha could spell with sic a pen?"

Of a piece with this, and indicating a somewhat similar degree of intellectual culture, was his going to a jeweller to bespeak a ring, similar to one worn by a friend of his which had taken his fancy, and which was set either with the hair of Charles Edward, or some other member of his family, the latter circumstance of course constituting its chief value. "But how soon," said the jeweller, whom

he was for binding down to a day for the completion of the work, "will you send me the hair?"—"The hair, sir!" replied M'Nab fiercely; "Py Cot, sir, you must give me the hair to the pargain!"

In cases, however, where the Laird is exhibited in the exercise of his own native wit, he by no means cuts the ridiculous figure he is made to do in such stories as the above. The Laird was a regular attendant on the Leith races, at which he usually appeared in a rather flashy-looking gig. On one of these occasions he had the misfortune to lose his horse, which suddenly dropped down dead. At the races in the following year, a wag who had witnessed the catastrophe, rode up to him and said, "M'Nab, is that the same horse you had last year?"

"No, py Cot!" replied the Laird, "but this is the same whip;" and he was about to apply it to the shoulders of the querist, when he saved himself by a speedy retreat.

On the formation of the Local Militia in 1808, M'Nab being in Edinburgh, applied for arms for the Breadalbane corps of that force, but which he ought to have called the 4th Perthshire Local Militia. The storekeeper not recognising them by the name given by M'Nab, replied to his application that he did not know such a corps.

"My fine little storekeeper," rejoined the Laird, highly offended at the contempt implied in this answer, "that may be; but, take my word for it, we do not think a bit the less of ourselves by *your* not knowing us."

This original character, but kind, single-minded man, died unmarried* at Calendar, in Perthshire, on the 25th June 1816, in the eighty-second year of his age.

No. IV.

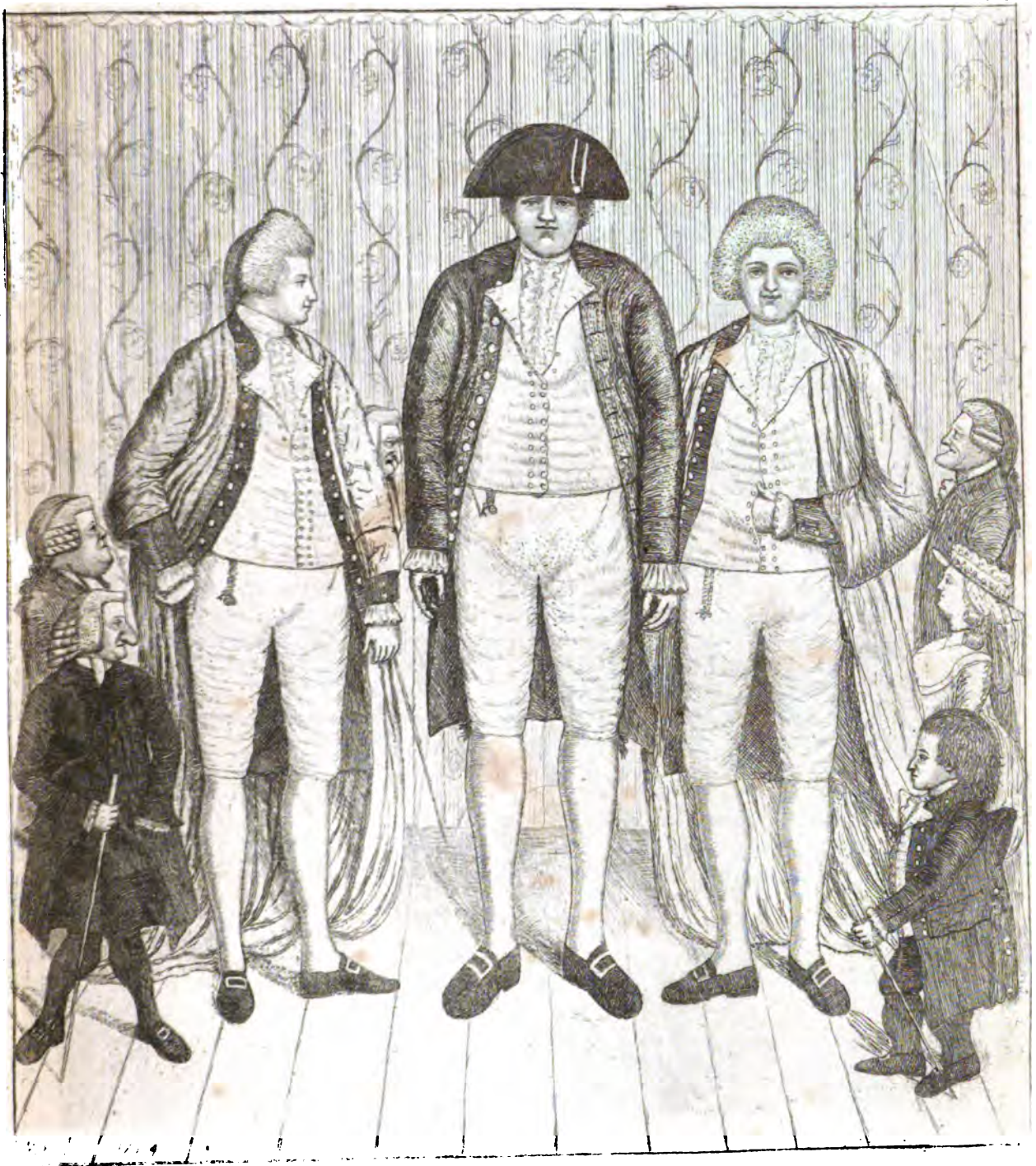
THREE GIANTS, WITH A GROUP OF SPECTATORS.

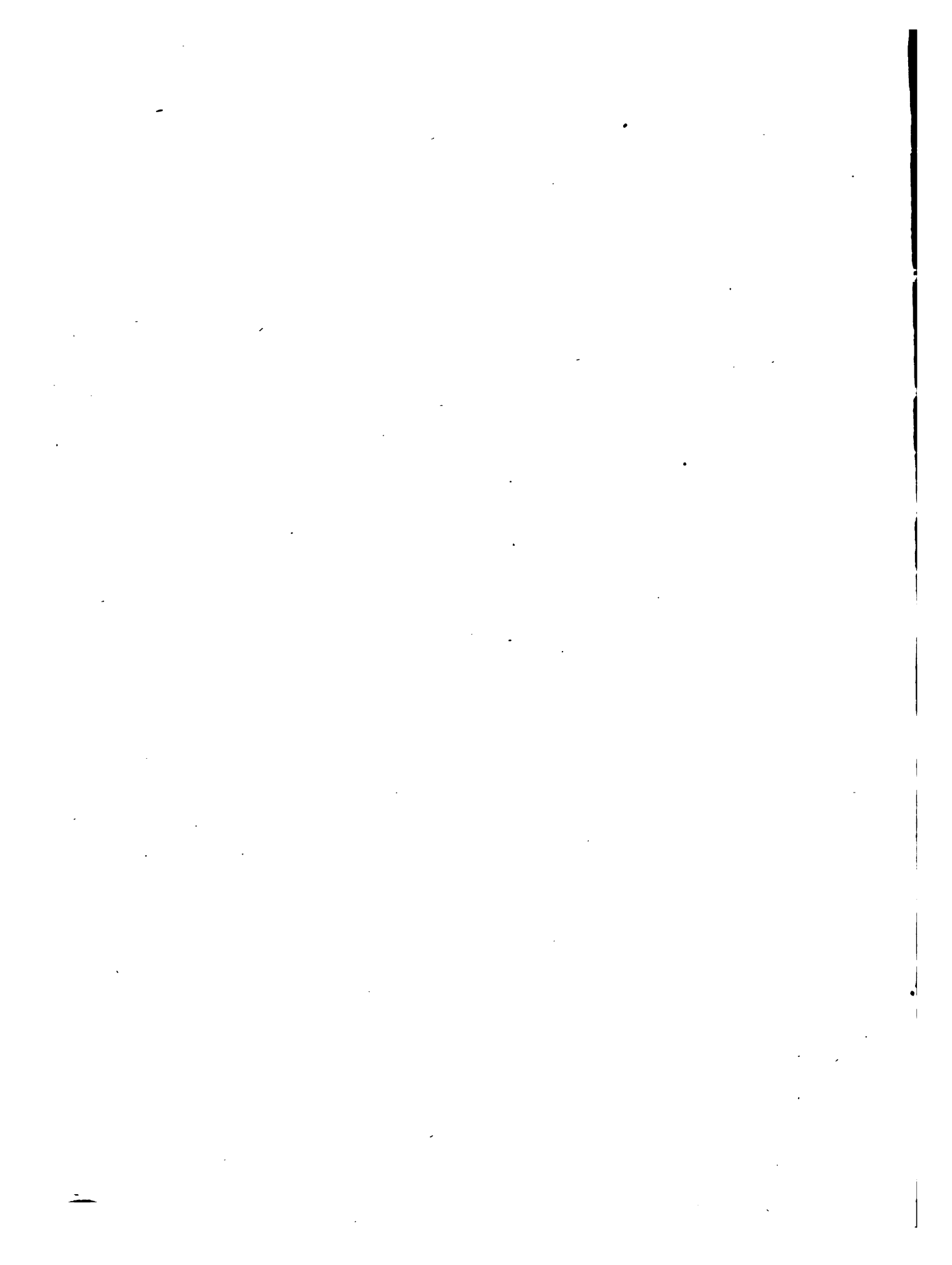
THIS Print exhibits CHARLES BYRNE, the Irish giant, and two other giants, also Irishmen, who, although not in Edinburgh at the same time, have been placed by the artist in one group.

The spectators are—Lord Monboddo, whose head appears in the background; William Richardson, solicitor-at-law, on the left behind; and Mr Bell, engraver, in front; on the right, Bailie Kyd, a lady, and a dwarf.

Byrne, the central of the three principal figures, was eight feet two inches in height, and proportionably thick. He was born in Ireland, of which country

* On one occasion when the opposite counsel, in one of his many causes in the Court of Session, was animadverting on the immoral character of the Laird, he observed that it was currently reported that he had no less than twenty-seven natural children in the quarter where he lived. The Laird, being in Court, rose up and said, "It is a pig lee, my Lord, for I have only four-and-twenty." One evening, being at a party, a number of young ladies very jocularly asked him why he never took a wife? He good-humouredly replied, "My tears, I love you all so well that I can't think of marrying any one of you."





his father was a native, but his mother was a Scotswoman. He travelled the country for the purpose of exhibiting his huge person. When in Edinburgh, he is said to have had great difficulty in getting up and down the narrow stairs of the Old Town, being obliged to crawl on all-fours.

It is also related of him, that he dreadfully alarmed the watchmen on the North Bridge, early one winter's morning, by lighting his pipe at one of the lamps; which he did with the greatest ease, without standing even on tiptoe. He died 1st June 1783, in Cockspur Street, Charing-Cross, London, aged only twenty-two. His death was occasioned by excessive drinking, to which he was always addicted, but more particularly after a loss he had sustained of almost all his savings, amounting to upwards of £700.* In his last moments, he requested that his ponderous remains might be thrown into the sea, in order that his bones might be placed far out of the reach of the chirurgical fraternity; and it was reported that his body was shipped on board a vessel, to be conveyed to the Downs to be sunk in twenty fathoms of water.

In the *Edinburgh Evening Courant*, June 9 and 10, 1783, the following notices, relative to the disposal of his body, are to be found:—

“The coffin of Mr Charles Byrne, the Irish giant, aged twenty-three years, measures eight feet five inches within side, and the outside case nine feet four inches, and the circumference of his shoulders measures three feet four inches.”

“Yesterday morning, June 6, the body of Byrne, the famous Irish giant, (who died a few days ago,) was carried to Margate, in order to be thrown into the sea, agreeable to his own request, he having been apprehensive that the surgeons would anatomize him.”

It is to be presumed that this fancy as to the disposal of his body was in some way obviated, as his skeleton is said to be now in the Hunterian Museum, Royal College of Surgeons, London. A correspondent of the *Gentleman's Magazine*, Vol. XXXIII., p. 541, observes, “That Mr Byrne, in August 1780, measured exactly eight feet; that, in 1782, he had gained two inches; and, that after he was dead, he measured eight feet four inches. Neither his father, mother, brother, nor any other person of the family, was of an extraordinary size.”

The two Irish giants, who are placed on each side of Byrne, visited Edinburgh in July 1784. Their presence in the northern capital was announced by various advertisements, of which we subjoin the following as a specimen:—

“IRISH GIANTS.

“The most surprising *Gigantic Twin Brothers* are just arrived in Edinburgh, and to be seen in an elegant apartment at Mr Robertson's, Ladies' Hair-dresser, No. 2, opposite to the Register Office, Prince's Street.

* After the death of Byrne, the note for £700 was traced to a Mr Atkinson, who insisted that he had given value for it; but the Giant's executor having proved that notice had been given of the theft previous to the exchange of the note, an action at law for the amount was compromised by a payment of £500.

“These wonderful Irish Giants are but twenty-three years of age, and measure very near eight feet high. These extraordinary young men have had the honour to be seen by their Majesties and Royal Family at Windsor, in November 1788, with great applause; and likewise by Gentlemen of the Faculty, Royal Society, and other admirers of natural curiosity, who allow them to surpass any thing of the same kind ever offered to the public. Their address is singular and pleasing: their persons truly shaped and proportioned to their height, and affords an agreeable surprise. They excel the famous Maximilian Miller, born in 1674, shown in London in 1733;* and the late Swedish Giant will scarce admit of comparison. To enumerate every particular would be too tedious; let it suffice to say, that they are beyond what is set forth in ancient or modern history. The ingenious and judicious who have honoured them with their company, have bestowed the most lavish encomiums; and, on their departure, have expressed their approbation and satisfaction. In short, the sight of them is more than the mind can conceive, the tongue express, or pencil delineate, and stands without a parallel in this or in any other country.

‘Take them for all in all, we shall scarce
Look on their like again.’

“Ladies and Gentlemen are respectfully informed, that their hours of admittance are from ten in the morning to three in the afternoon, and from four to nine in the evening, every day, (Sundays excepted.)

“Price of admittance, One Shilling.—July 27th, 1784.”

These “interesting” youths left Edinburgh for Aberdeen in the month of August following, proposing “to stop in a few towns on their way,” to astonish the natives. Whether they ever again visited Edinburgh has not been ascertained.

BAILIE JOHN KYD, a bachelor, who once made no small noise in the city, especially at the time the Print of the “Kid and the Goat” was done, was a wine-merchant in that large land at the head of the Cowgate, opposite the Candlemaker Row, first door up stairs, in the flat immediately below Mrs Syme, grandmother to Lord Brougham. He was third Bailie in 1769; first Bailie in 1772; and Dean of Guild in 1774 and 1775. He died, it is understood, early in the year 1810.

WILLIAM RICHARDSON, solicitor-at-law—the gentleman in the background on the left—was in his time eminent in his profession, and much respected as Preses of the Society of Solicitors. He died, the oldest member of that Society, at Edinburgh, on the 6th of July 1801, being seventy-eight years of age.

* Dec. 12, 1734.—This day died the tall Saxon, being about seven feet ten inches high.”

ANDREW BELL, the very odd-looking gentleman on the left, was an engraver ; and however little flattering this representation of his person may be considered, it is nevertheless perfectly correct—his nose to a hair's-breadth, and the angle of his legs to a point. Mr Bell began his professional career in the humble employment of engraving letters, names, and crests on gentlemen's plate, dog's collars, and so forth ; but subsequently rose to be the first in his line in Edinburgh. His success, however, can scarcely be attributed to any excellence he ever attained as an engraver, but rather to the result of a fortunate professional speculation in which he engaged. This was the publication of the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, of which he was proprietor to the amount of a half ; and to which he furnished the plates. By one edition of this work he is said to have realized twenty thousand pounds.

Mr Bell did not possess the advantage of a liberal education, but this deficiency he in some measure obviated in after life by extensive reading, and by keeping the society of men of letters, of which aids to intellectual improvement he made so good a use that he became remarkable for the extent of his information, and so agreeable a companion that his company was in great request.

Mr Bell was a true philosopher : so far from being ashamed of the unnecessary liberality of nature in the article of nose, he was in the habit of making it the groundwork of an amusing practical joke.

He carried about with him a still larger artificial nose, which, when any merry party he happened to be with had got in their cups, he used to slip on, unseen, above his own immense proboscis, to the inexpressible horror and amazement of those who were not aware of the trick. They had observed of course, at the first, that Mr Bell's nose was rather a striking feature of his face, but they could not conceive how it had so suddenly acquired the utterly hideous magnitude which it latterly presented to them.

Mr Bell was also remarkable for the deformity of his legs, upon which, however, he was the first person to jest. Once in a large company, when some jokes had passed on the subject, he said, pushing out one of them, that he would wager there was in the room a leg still more crooked. The company denied his assertion and accepted the challenge, whereupon he very coolly thrust out his other leg, which was still worse than its neighbour, and thus gained his bet.

Mr Bell acknowledged he was but a very indifferent engraver himself, yet he reared some first-rate artists in that profession. He died much regretted, at his own house in Laurieston Lane, at the advanced age of eighty-three, on the 10th of May 1809.

No. V.

LORD KAMES.

HUGO ARNOT, ESQ. OF BALCORMO, ADVOCATE.

LORD MONBODDO.

HENRY HOME, LORD KAMES, the first figure in this Print, well known by his numerous works on law and metaphysics, was a judge of the Courts of Session and Justiciary.

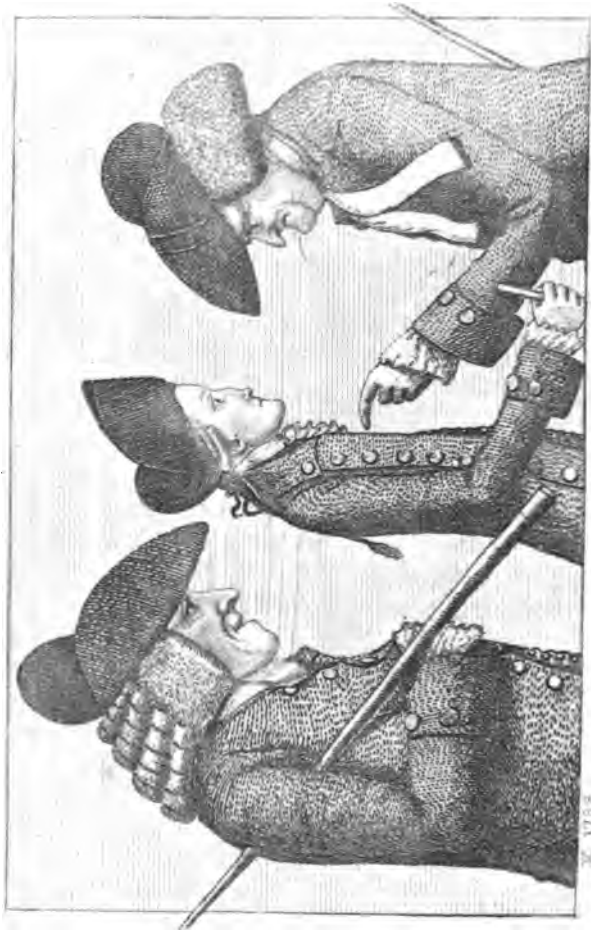
He was born in the county of Berwick, in the year 1695, and was descended of an ancient but reduced family. But it was to his own exertions, his natural talent and profound legal knowledge, that he was indebted for the high rank and celebrity he subsequently attained; for his father was in straitened circumstances, and unable to extend to him any such aid as wealth could afford.

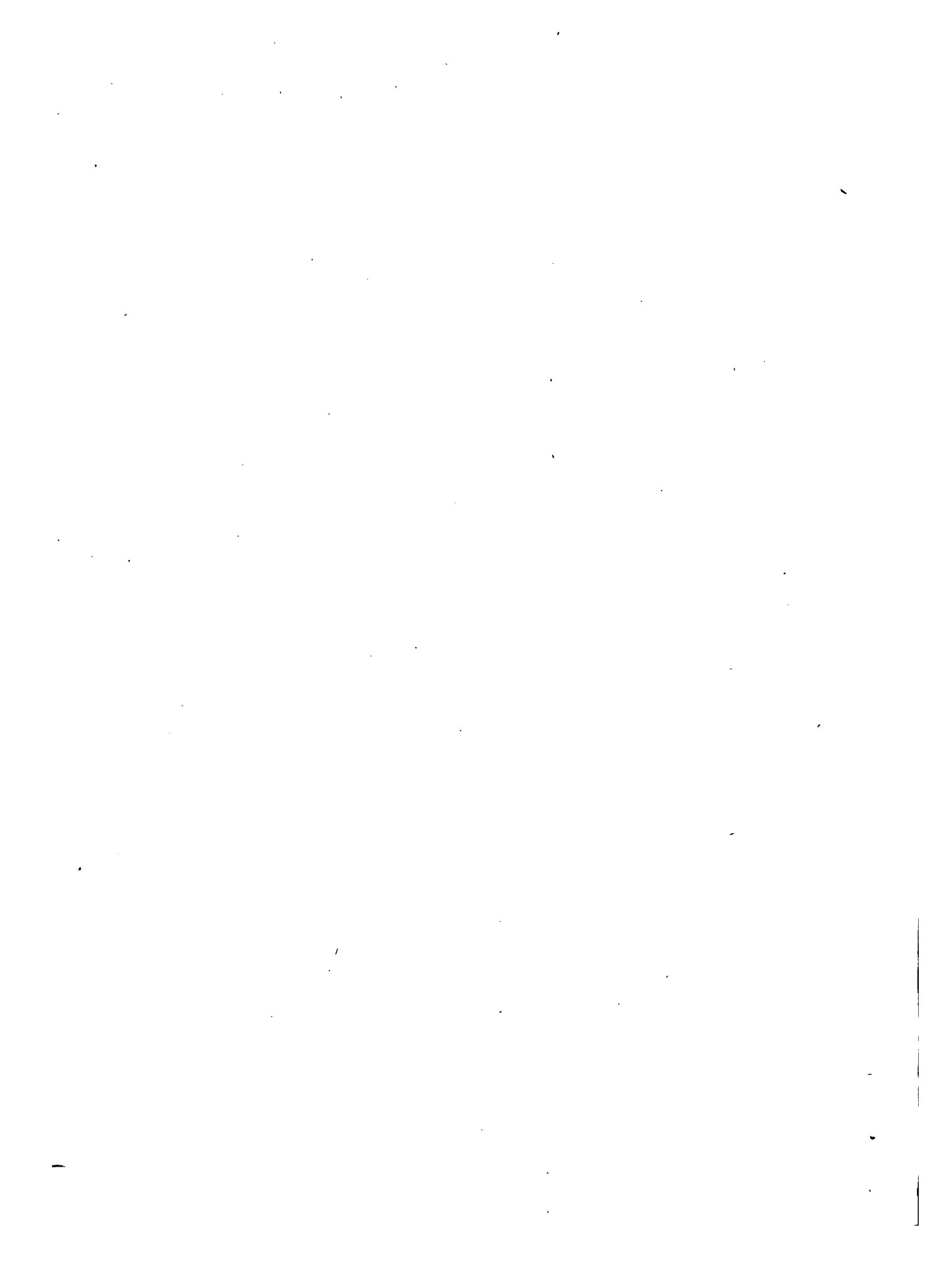
His lordship was early destined for the profession of the law, in which he wisely began at the beginning; having started in his career as a writer's apprentice, with the view of acquiring a competent knowledge of the forms and practical business of courts. After long and successful practice at the bar, he was raised to the bench, and took his seat 6th February 1752.

Lord Kames possessed a flow of spirits, and a vivacity of wit, and liveliness of fancy, that rendered his society exceedingly delightful, and particularly acceptable to the ladies, with whom he was in high favour. He is accused of having become in his latter years somewhat parsimonious; what truth may have been in the accusation we know not.

Notwithstanding the general gravity of his pursuits, his lordship was naturally of a playful disposition, and fond of a harmless practical joke, of which a curious instance is on record.

A Mr Wingate, who had been his private tutor in early life, but who had by no means made himself agreeable to him, called upon him after he had become eminent in his profession, to take his opinion regarding the validity of certain title-deeds which he held for a sum of money advanced on land. The lawyer, after carefully examining them, looked at his old master with an air of the most profound concern, and expressed a hope that he had not concluded the bargain. The alarmed pedagogue, with a most rueful countenance, answered that he had; when Mr Home gravely proceeded to entertain him with a luminous exposition of the defects of the deeds, showing, by a long series of legal and technical objections, that they were not worth the value of the parchment on which they were written. Having enjoyed for some time Wingate's distress, he relieved the sufferer by thus addressing him—"You may remember, sir, how you made me smart in days of yore for very small offences: now, I think





our accounts are closed. Take up your papers, man, and go home with an easy mind ; your titles are excellent."

Amongst his lordship's singularities, which were not a few, was an unaccountable predilection for a certain word, more remarkable for its vigour than its elegance, which he used freely even on the bench, where it certainly must have sounded very oddly. This peculiarity is pointed out in the amusing poem, entitled the " Court of Session Garland," by James Boswell—

" Alemoor the judgment as illegal blames—
'Tis equity, you b—h,' replies my Lord Kames."

About a week before his death, which was the result of extreme old age, feeling his end approaching, he went to the Court of Session, addressed all the judges separately, told them he was speedily to depart, and bade them a solemn and affectionate farewell. On reaching the door, however, he turned round, and, bestowing a last look on his sorrowing brethren, made his exit, exclaiming, " Fare ye a' weel, ye b—hes !"

Not more than four days before his demise, a friend called on his lordship, and found him, although in a state of great languor and debility, dictating to an amanuensis. He expressed his surprise at seeing him so actively employed. " Ye b—h," replied Kames, " would you have me stay with my tongue in my cheek till death comes to fetch me !" A day or two after this, he told the celebrated Dr Cullen that he earnestly wished to be away, because he was exceedingly curious to learn the nature and manners of another world. He added—" Doctor, as I never could be idle in this world, I shall willingly perform any task that may be imposed on me in the next."

During the latter part of his life, he entertained a dread that he would outlive his faculties, and was well pleased to find, from the rapid decay of his body, that he would escape this calamity by a speedy dissolution. He died, after a short illness, on the 27th of December 1782, in the 87th year of his age.

His lordship lived in the *self-contained* house at the head of New Street, fronting the Canongate, east side, a house which was then considered one of the first in the city.

The works of Lord Kames are—" Remarkable Decisions of the Court of Session, from 1706 to 1728," folio ; " Essays upon several Subjects in Law," 1732 ; " Decisions of the Court of Session, from its first institution till the year 1740," 1741—two volumes were afterwards added by Lord Woodhouselee, and a Supplement by M'Grugar ; " Essays on several Subjects concerning British Antiquities," 1747 ; " Essays on the Principles of Morality and Natural Religion, in Two Parts," 1751, 8vo ; " The Statute Law of Scotland, abridged, with Historical Notes," 1757, 8vo ; " Historical Law Tracts," 1759, 8vo ; " The Principles of Equity," 1760, folio ; " Introduction to the Art of Thinking," 1761, 12mo ; " Elements of Criticism," 1762, 8vo, 3 vols. ; " Remarkable Decisions of the Court of Session, from 1730 to 1752," 1766, folio ; " Gentleman Farmer," 1772, 8vo ; " Sketches of the History of Man,"

1773, 2 vols. 4to ; "Elucidations respecting the Common and Statute Law of Scotland," 1777, 8vo ; "Select Decisions of the Court of Session, from 1752 to 1768," 1780, folio ; and "Loose Hints upon Education, chiefly concerning the Culture of the Heart," 1781, 8vo.

HUGO ARNOT, Esq., the singularly attenuated gentleman who appears between Lord Kames and Lord Monboddo, was, in as far as his person is concerned, a sort of natural curiosity. He was of great height, but, as the Print shows, sadly deficient in breadth ; yet an intelligent friend, who has contributed some information to this work, and who knew him well, complains that the limner has made him "*really too solid!*" If this be so, it is an error which is corrected in another likeness of him, which appears elsewhere in the present work. Mr Arnot's person was, in truth, altogether an extraordinary and remarkable one, and it was in consequence the source of many jests and witticisms.

Mr Arnot was the son of a merchant and ship proprietor at Leith, where he was born on the 8th December 1749. His name was originally Pollock, but he changed it in early life to Arnòt, on the occasion of his falling heir, through his mother, to the estate of Balcormo in Fife.* He was bred to the law, and became a member of the Faculty of Advocates in the year 1772. A severe asthma, however, which was greatly aggravated by almost every kind of exertion, proved a serious obstruction to his progress at the bar, where, but for this unfortunate circumstance, there is little doubt that his talents would have raised him to eminence.

Mr Arnot published in 12mo, London, 1776, "An Essay on Nothing, a Discourse delivered in a Society," which was favourably received.

In 1779, appeared his "History of Edinburgh," which makes, perhaps, as near an approach to classical excellence as any topographical publication which has ever appeared in Scotland. The merit of this work is sufficiently expressed in the fact of its not having been thrown into the shade, either in respect of information or composition, by any subsequent production. In 1785, Mr Arnot published a "Collection of Celebrated Criminal Trials, with Historical and Critical Remarks," which added considerably to the reputation of its author.

Prior to the publication of this curious work, Arnot quarrelled with the booksellers ; and, in December 1784, he advertised the book to be published by subscription, adding, "Mr Arnot printed, a few days ago, a prospectus of the work, that the public might form some idea of its nature, and he sent it to be hung up in the principal booksellers in town ; but they have thought proper to refuse, in a body, to allow the prospectus and subscription papers to hang in their shops. The prospectus will therefore be seen at the Royal Exchange Coffee-House, Exchange Coffee-House, Prince's Street Coffee-House, and Messrs Corri and Sutherland's Music-Shop, Edinburgh, and Gibb's Coffee-House, Leith."

* "Died December 5, 1773, at her house in Fifeshire, Mrs Arnot of Balcormo, relict of the deceased Mr Pollock, merchant."

Mr Arnot, in his day, enjoyed an unusually large share of local popularity, proceeding from a combination of circumstances—his extraordinary figure, his abilities, his public spirit, his numerous eccentricities, and his caustic wit and humour. The reverse of Falstaff in figure, he resembled that creature of imagination in being not only witty himself, but the cause of wit in others. The jest of Henry Erskine, who, meeting him in the act of eating a spelding or dried haddock, complimented him on looking so like his meat, was but one of many which his extraordinary tenuity gave rise to.

Going amongst the North Bridge one day, Mr Arnot, who was of so extremely *nervous* and irritable a disposition that he appeared, when walking the streets, as if constantly under the apprehension of some impending danger, was suddenly surrounded by half-a-dozen unruly curs in the course of their gambols. This was a trying situation for a man of his weak nerves; but he wanted only presence of mind, not courage, and the latter, after a second or two, came to his aid. It rose with the occasion, and he began to brandish his stick; striking right and left, in front and in rear, with a rapidity and vigour that kept the enemy at bay, and made himself, in a twinkling, the centre of a canine circle. The resolution, however, which had come so opportunely to his assistance on this occasion, in the end gave way. Perceiving a break in the enemy's lines, he bolted through, turned again round, and thus, keeping the foe in front, retreated, still flourishing his stick, till he got his back against a wall, where, though it does not appear that he was pursued by the dogs, he continued the exercise of his cudgel for some time with unabated vigour, as if still in contact with the enemy, to the great amusement of the bystanders, amongst whom recognising a young man whom he knew, he roared out to him in a voice almost inarticulate with excessive agitation—"W——l, you scoundrel! why did you not assist me when you saw me in such danger?"

The man whom nervous disease placed in this grotesque attitude was originally of an intrepid mind, as is sufficiently proved by several incidents in his early life. One of them was his riding to the end of the Pier of Leith on a spirited horse, when the waves were dashing over it in such a way as to impress every onlooker with the belief that he could not fail to be swept into the sea.

Another, was his accepting the challenge of an anonymous foe, who took offence at a political pamphlet he had written. This person called on him to meet him in the King's Park, naming the particular place and time. Mr Arnot repaired to the spot at the appointed hour; but, though he waited long, no antagonist presented himself.

In his professional capacity he was guided by a sense of honour, and of moral obligation, to which he never scrupled to sacrifice his interests. He would take in hand no one cause, of the justice and legality of which he was not perfectly satisfied. On one occasion, a case being submitted to his consideration, which seemed to him to possess neither of these qualifications—"Pray," said he, with a grave countenance to the intending litigant, "what do you suppose me to be?"—"Why," answered the latter, "I understand you to be a lawyer."—"I

thought, Sir," said Arnot, sternly, "you took me for a scoundrel!" The man withdrew, not a little abashed at this plump insinuation of the dishonesty of his intentions.

On another occasion, he was waited upon by a lady not remarkable either for youth, beauty, or good temper, for advice as to her best method of getting rid of the importunities of a rejected admirer, when, after telling her story, the following colloquy took place:—

"Ye maun ken, Sir," said the lady, "that I am a namesake o' your ain. I am the chief o' the Arnots."

"Are you by Jing?" replied Mr Arnot.

"Yes, Sir, I am; and ye maun just advise me what I ought to do with this impertinent fellow?"

"Oh, marry him by all means! It's the only way to get quit of his importunities."

"I would see him hanged first!" replied the lady, with emphatic indignation.

"Nay, Madam," rejoined Mr Arnot; "marry him directly, as I said before, and, by the lord Harry, he'll soon hang himself!"

The severe asthmatic complaint with which he was afflicted, subjected him latterly to much bodily suffering. When in great pain one day from difficulty of breathing, he was annoyed by the bawling of a man selling sand on the streets.

"The rascal!" exclaimed the tortured invalid, at once irritated by the voice, and envious of the power of lungs which occasioned it, "he spends as much breath in a minute as would serve me for a month."

Mr Arnot had a habit of ringing his bell with great violence—a habit which much annoyed an old maiden-lady who resided in the floor above him. The lady complained of this annoyance frequently, and implored Mr Arnot to sound his bell with a more delicate touch; but to no purpose. At length, annoyed in turn by her importunities, which he believed to proceed from mere querulousness, he gave her to understand, in reply to her last message, that he would drop the bell altogether. This he accordingly did; but in its place substituted a pistol, which he fired off whenever he desired the attendance of his servant, to the great alarm of the invalid, who now as earnestly besought the restitution of the bell, as she had requested its discontinuance.

Mr Arnot died on the 20th November 1786, in the 37th year of his age, exhibiting, in the closing scene of his life, a remarkable instance of the peculiarity of his character, and, it may be added, of his fortitude. For several weeks previous to his death, he regularly visited his appointed burial-place in South Leith Churchyard, to observe the progress of some masons whom he had employed to wall it in, and frequently expressed a fear that his death would take place before they should have completed the work.

JAMES BURNETT, LORD MONBODDO. This learned, ingenious, and amiable, but eccentric man, was one of the judges of the Court of Session. He was

the eldest surviving son of James Burnett, Esq. of Monboddo, in the county of Kincardine, where he was born in the year 1714.

His lordship received his initiatory education chiefly at the school of Laurencekirk, and afterwards was sent to King's College, Aberdeen, where he distinguished himself by his proficiency in ancient literature, the study of which, in after life, became his ruling passion, and engrossed his attention to the entire exclusion of the productions of modern talent.

Having been early destined for the bar, he proceeded, after completing his literary education at Aberdeen, to Groningen, where he studied Civil Law for three years. At the end of this period he came to Edinburgh, where he happened to arrive on the forenoon of the day which concluded with the public murder, as it might be called, of Captain Porteous. When about to retire to rest, his lordship's curiosity was excited by a noise and tumult in the streets, and, in place of going to bed, he slipped to the door half undressed, and with his nightcap on his head. He speedily got entangled in the crowd of passers-by, and was hurried along with them to the Grassmarket, where he became an involuntary witness of the last act of the tragedy. This scene made so deep an impression on his lordship, that it not only deprived him of sleep during the remainder of the night, but induced him to think of leaving the city altogether, as a place unfit for a civilized being to live in. From this resolution, however, he was subsequently diverted, on hearing an explanation of the whole circumstances connected with the proceeding. His lordship frequently related this incident in after life, and on these occasions described with much force the effect which it had upon him.

Lord Monboddo passed his Civil Law examinations upon the 12th of February 1737, and being found duly qualified, was admitted a member of the Faculty of Advocates. In 1767 he was appointed a Lord of Session, and assumed the judicial designation by which he is now best known. It is a remarkable circumstance, that the seat on the bench occupied by his lordship was enjoyed by only three persons (himself being one) during the long period of one hundred and ten years.

Lord Monboddo's patrimonial estate was small, not producing during the greater part of his life more than L.300 a-year; yet of so generous and benevolent a disposition was he, that he would not raise his rents, nor dismiss a poor tenant for the sake of augmentation. It was his boast to have his lands more numerously peopled than any portion of equal extent in his neighbourhood.

When in the country, during the vacation of the Court of Session, he wore the dress of a plain farmer, and lived on a footing of familiarity and kindness with his tenantry that greatly endeared him to them.

His lordship's private life was spent in the enjoyment of domestic felicity and in the practice of all the social virtues. Though his habits were rigidly temperate, there were few things he so much delighted in as the convivial society of his friends. He was a zealous patron of merit, and amongst those who experienced his friendship was the poet Burns.

Notwithstanding the amiable character of Lord Monboddo, and his many

excellent qualities, he was not a little remarkable for his eccentricities, and for the strangeness and oddity of some of his opinions and sentiments. The most remarkable of these, as recorded by himself in his celebrated work on the Origin and Progress of Language, is the assertion that "the human race were originally gifted with tails!" It was in allusion to this extraordinary discovery, that Lord Kames, to whom he would on a certain occasion have conceded precedence, declined it saying, "By no means, my lord, you must walk first that I may see your tail!"

The work of his lordship above alluded to, was severely handled in the *Edinburgh Magazine and Review*, by Dr Gilbert Stuart, its editor, a severity which is said to have occasioned the downfall of that publication by the general offence which it gave.*

Many peculiarities also marked his lordship's conduct in his official capacity, for he brought them even into court with him. Amongst these was his never sitting on the bench with his brethren, but underneath with the clerks, a proceeding which is said to have been owing to the circumstance of their lordships having on one occasion decerned against him in a case when he was pursuer for the value of a horse, and in which he pleaded his own cause at the bar.† Generally speaking, he was not inclined to assent to the decisions of his colleagues. On the contrary, he was often in the minority, and not unfrequently stood alone. He was nevertheless an eminent lawyer, and a most upright judge, and had more than once the gratification of having his decision confirmed in the House of Peers, when it was directly opposed to the unanimous opinion of his brethren.

It has been already mentioned that an exclusive admiration of classic literature, which extended to every thing connected with it, formed a prominent feature in his lordship's character. This admiration he carried so far as to get up suppers in imitation of the ancients. These he called his *learned suppers*. He gave them once a-week, and his guests generally were Drs Black, Hutton, and Hope, and Mr William Smellie, printer, including occasionally the son of the gentleman last mentioned, the present Mr Alexander Smellie.

His lordship was in the habit for many years, during the vacations, of making a journey to London, where he enjoyed the society of some of the most eminent men of the period, then residing there, and frequently had the honour of personal interviews with the King, who took much pleasure in conversing with him.‡

* To this work Hume, the historian, was a contributor.

† This statement relative to the cause which induced his lordship to take his seat at the clerk's table, is somewhat doubtful; the deafness under which he laboured, affords a much more satisfactory reason. The first time he sat there, was upon occasion of the decision of the Douglas cause, when having been originally the leading counsel on behalf of Archibald Douglas, (afterwards Lord Douglas,) he felt a delicacy in giving his opinion from the bench, and preferred delivering it at the clerk's table. His speech in favour of the paternity is admitted to have been the most able one on that side of the question.

‡ During one of his visits to London, (May 1785,) he was present in the King's Bench, when, owing to a false rumour that the court-room was falling, the judges, and lawyers, and visitors, made a rush to get





These journeys his lordship always performed on horseback, as he would on no account even enter a carriage, against the use of which he had two objections: First, that it was degrading to the dignity of human nature to be dragged at the tails of horses, instead of being mounted on their backs; and second, that such effeminate conveyances were not in common use amongst the ancients.

He continued these annual equestrian journeys to London till he was upwards of eighty years of age. On his last visit, which he made on purpose to take leave of all his friends in the metropolis, he was seized with a severe illness on the road, and would probably have perished on the way-side, had he not been overtaken accidentally by his friend Sir John Pringle, who prevailed upon him to travel the remainder of the stage in one of these vehicles for which he entertained so profound a contempt. Next day, however, he again mounted his horse, and finally arrived in safety and in good spirits at Edinburgh.

His lordship was very partial to a boiled egg, and often used to say, "Show me any of your French cooks who can make a dish like this."

Lord Monboddo died on the 27th May 1799, at the advanced age of eighty-five.

His character is thus summed up in the first four lines of an epitaph written on him by James Tytler, an unfortunate son of genius who had experienced his benevolence:—

" If wisdom, learning, worth, demand a tear,
Weep o'er the dust of great Monboddo here;
A judge upright, to mercy still inclined,
A gen'rous friend, a father fond and kind."

No. VI.

CONTEMPLATION.

THIS is another portrait of LORD MONBODDO, representing him in his study, engaged, we may presume, in composing his "Essay on the Origin and Progress of Language."

In a corner of the apartment hangs a picture, in which his lordship's favourite notion of tails is illustrated by a group of little fellows adorned with these appendages.

out, his lordship took it very coolly, as the following anecdote, extracted from one of the journals of the day, evinces:—"In the curious *route* of the *lawyers' corps*, it is singular that the only person who kept his seat was a venerable stranger. Old Lord Monboddo, one of the Scots judges, was in the Court of King's Bench, and being short sighted, and rather dull in his hearing, he sat still during the tumult, and did not move from his place. Afterwards being asked why he did not bestir himself to avoid the ruin, he coolly answered—"that he thought it was an *annual ceremony*, with which, as an *alien* to our *laws*, he had nothing to do!"

No. VII.

LORD GARDENSTONE.

MR FRANCIS GARDEN, judicially denominated Lord Gardenstone, was distinguished as a man of some talent and much eccentricity. Born in 1721, the second son of a Banffshire gentleman, he chose the profession of an advocate, and was admitted a member of Faculty upon the 14th of July 1744. On the 3d of July 1764, he was raised to the Bench. He is here represented in the latter part of life, as he usually appeared in proceeding from his house at Morningside, (the one next the Asylum,) to attend his duties in the Court. Kay has endeavoured to represent him as, what he really was, a very timid horseman, mounted, moreover, on a jaded old hack, which he had selected for its want of spirit, preceded by his favourite dog Smash, and followed by a Highland boy, whose duty it was to take charge of his Rosinante on arriving at the Parliament House.

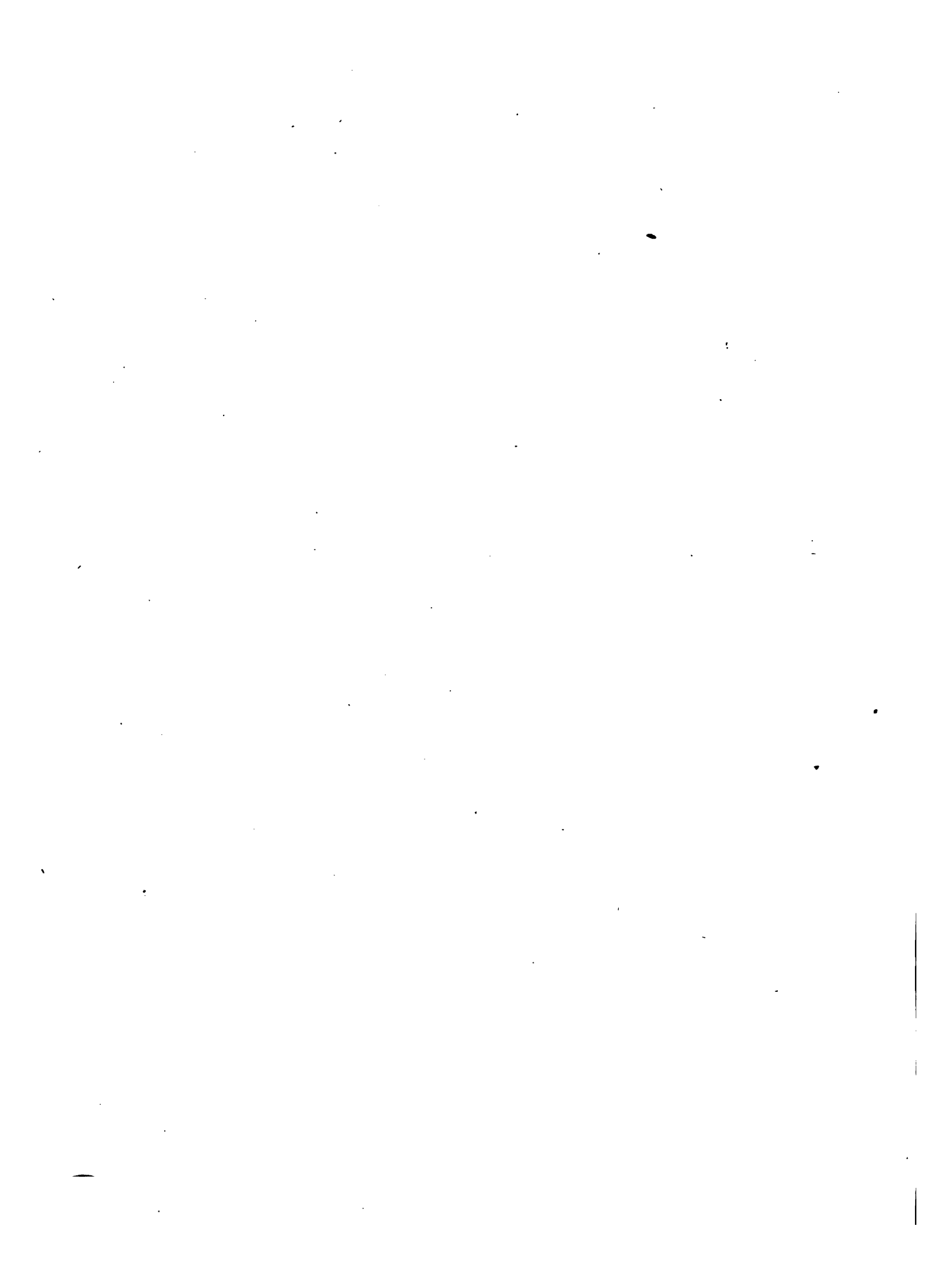
In early life, Mr Garden participated largely in the laxities of the times. He was one of those ancient heroes of the bar, who, after a night of hard drinking, without having been to bed, and without having studied their causes, would plead with great eloquence upon the mere strength of what they had picked up from the oratory of the opposite counsel. * In 1745, being in arms as a loyal subject, he was despatched by Sir John Cope, with another gentleman, to reconnoitre the approach of the Highland army from Dunbar. As the two volunteers passed the bridge of Musselburgh, they recollected a house in that neighbourhood where they had often regaled themselves with oysters and sherry, and the opportunity of repeating the indulgence being too tempting to be resisted, they thought no more of their military duty till a straggling Highland recruit entered and took them both prisoners. John Roy Stuart made a motion to hang them as spies; but their drunkenness joined so effectually with their protestations, in establishing their innocence, that they were soon after liberated on parole. †

In his more mature years, Lord Gardenstone distinguished himself by a benevolent scheme of a somewhat unusual kind. Having, in 1762, purchased the

* At one time there seems to have been a speculation set on foot to provide a convenient place for *refreshing* the members of the College of Justice; for in the minutes of the Faculty of Advocates, 13th February 1741, there is an entry relative to a petition presented to the Dean and Faculty by James Balfour of Forreth, stating that he intended to build a coffee-house adjoining to the west side of the Parliament House, "for the conveniency and accommodation of the members of the College of Justice, and of the Senators of Court," and that he was anxious for the patronage of the Society. He also mentioned that he had petitioned the judges, who had *unanimously* approved of the project. A remit was made to the curators of the library, and to Messrs Cross and Barclay, to consider the petition, and report whether it should be granted; but nothing appears to have been done by the committee.

† Lord Kames once took it upon him to reprove his brother judge for his love of the fair—"Gang to the deil, my lord!" was the rejoinder; "my fauts aye grow the langer the less; but yours (alluding to his parsimony) aye the langer the waur."





estate of Johnstone, in Kincardineshire, he devoted himself for some years to the task of improving the condition of those who resided upon it. The village of Laurencekirk, then consisting of only a few houses, was taken under his especial patronage. He planned a new line of street, offered leases of small farms and of ground for building on extremely advantageous terms, built a commodious inn for the reception of travellers, founded a library for the use of the villagers, and established manufactures of various kinds. By some of his operations he lost largely, but this did not in the least abate his philanthropy, or for a moment interrupt the career of his benevolence. The manufacture of a very elegant kind of snuff-box, the hinges of which are styled "invisible," such as those made in Cumnock, Ayrshire, is still carried on in the village to a considerable extent.

His lordship's labours in this good work were crowned with the success they merited. His village grew rapidly, and before his death had attained a degree of importance and prosperity that exceeded his most sanguine expectations. Of the delight which Lord Gardenstone took in this benevolent project, a singularly pleasing expression occurs in a letter which he addressed to the inhabitants of Laurencekirk. "I have tried," he says, "in some measure a variety of the pleasures which mankind pursue; but never relished any thing so much as the pleasure arising from the progress of my village."

In his lordship's anxiety to do every thing in his power to invest his favourite village of Laurencekirk with attractions for strangers, he erected a handsome little building adjoining the inn as a museum, and filled it with fossils, rare shells, minerals, and other curiosities. Considering the facility of access, it is not surprising that these should from time to time disappear; not unfrequently the unsuspecting proprietor was imposed upon, by having his curiosities stolen and sold over again to himself! In this building there was also kept an album or commonplace book, in which visitors were invited to record whatever they thought fit, and, as might be expected, many of the entries were not of the choicest description. The apartment was likewise adorned by portraits of a number of the favourite original inhabitants of the village. The inn itself was kept by a favourite servant of his lordship's, who rejoiced in the refreshing patronymic of "Cream," a kind-hearted and worthy man.

In the year 1785, his lordship succeeded by the death of his elder brother, Alexander Garden of Troup, to the possession of the family estates, which were considerable. His acquisition of this additional wealth was marked by another circumstance, which strikingly evinces the natural generosity of his disposition. He remitted to the tenants all the debts due to him as heir to his brother.

On his succession to the family property, his lordship set out on a tour to the Continent, where he remained three years, traversing in this time great part of France, the Netherlands, Germany, and Italy. The results of his observations during this tour, (which was made in part with the view of gratifying curiosity, but chiefly with that of improving his health, which was much impaired,) he gave

to the world in two volumes, entitled, " Travelling Memorandums made in a Tour upon the Continent of Europe in the year 1792." A third volume of this work was published after his death. About the same time he published " Miscellanies in Prose and Verse," a collection of light fugitive pieces, partly of his own composition, and partly of others, the boon-companions of his youth. The best of these, however, are attributed to Lord Gardenstone himself.

Among the eccentricities of Lord Gardenstone, was an attachment to the generation of pigs. He had reared one of these animals with so much affectionate care, that it followed him wherever he went like a dog. While it was little, he allowed it even to share his bed during the night. As it grew up, however, which no doubt it would do rapidly under such patronage, this was found inconvenient; and it was discarded from the bed, but permitted still to sleep in the apartment, where his lordship accommodated it with a couch composed of his own clothes, which he said kept it in a state of comfortable warmth.

His lordship consumed immense quantities of snuff; requiring such a copious supply that he carried it in a leathern waistcoat-pocket made for the purpose, and used to say that if he had a dozen noses he would give them *all* snuff. His use of this article was so liberal, that every fold in his waistcoat was filled with it; and it is said that from these repositories the villagers, when conversing with him, frequently helped themselves, without his knowledge, to a pinch.

In his dress his lordship was exceedingly plain, a circumstance which gave rise to an incident highly characteristic of him, which occurred at one time when he was returning from London.

Observing some young bucks taking inside tickets for the coach in which he was about to travel, he took his for the outside. On arriving at the end of the stage, where the passengers were to breakfast, his lordship, who had been shown into an inferior room, while his better-dressed fellow-travellers were conducted to the best, called the waiter, and desired him to carry his compliments to the young gentlemen, on whose philanthropy it was his object to make an experiment, and to request that they would permit him to have the honour of breakfasting with them. To this message precisely such an answer was returned as his lordship expected. It was that the gentlemen above stairs kept no company with *outside* passengers. Lord Gardenstone made no reply, but desired the waiter to bring him a *magnum bonum* of claret, and to send the landlord to share it with him, concluding with an order to get a post-chaise and four ready for him immediately. These commands, which very much amazed both mine host and his man, having been in due time complied with, his lordship paid his bill and departed, giving orders previously to his coachman so to manage as to arrive at the stage where his former fellow-travellers would dine, precisely at the same time with them, that they might witness the respect which should be paid to him by the landlord, to whom he was known. All this the young bucks accordingly saw, and having set on foot some inquiries on the subject, they soon discovered their mistake. With the view of atoning for their incivility, they





now sent a polite card to Lord Gardenstone, begging his pardon for what had happened in the morning, which they attributed to their ignorance of his quality, and requesting it, as a particular favour, that he would *honour them with his company to dinner*. To this polite card his lordship returned a verbal answer, that "he kept no company with people whose pride would not permit them to use their fellow-travellers with civility."

The latter years of this amiable man's life were spent in the discharge of the duties of his office of a judge; and the very last act of his public beneficence was the erection of the ornamental building that incloses St Bernard's Well, in the neighbourhood of Edinburgh.

His lordship died at Morningside, near Edinburgh, on the 22d of July 1793, in the 72d year of his age.

No. VIII.

HUGO ARNOT, ESQ. ADVOCATE, AND GINGERBREAD JOCK.

THE strange figure of Mr Arnot appears to have been a favourite with Kay, who has here ironically represented him in the act of relieving a beggar, the fact being that he had a nervous antipathy to mendicants, and was at all times more disposed to cane them than to give them an alms.

John Duncan, the beggar here represented, was a poor creature, who, after having long endeavoured to support himself by the sale of gingerbread, sunk into mendicancy, which he usually practised at a corner of the Parliament Square.

Jock's mode of conducting business while in active life, and before he had retired to enjoy the *otium cum dignitate*, expressed in so lively a manner in his countenance and general appearance in the Print, was to place four or five cakes of the commodity in which he dealt on their edges, at equal distances on the ground, he himself standing by with a short pole, which, on paying Jock a halfpenny, you were at liberty to discharge at the cakes, with the distinct understanding that all those you knocked down became yours. Jock's traducers, however—for what public personage is without them?—allege that the cakes were so ingeniously placed, that it was next to impossible to knock any of them over at all, and that therefore your halfpenny was, *a priori*, lost money. This ingenious mode of gaming is still well known under the appellation of "Roley-Poley." As to John Duncan, little more is known of him than what is recorded of the antediluvian patriarchs, that he lived and died; although, indeed, after living the life of a beggar, he may be said to have died like a king, for his death resembled that of Herod, King of Judea.

No. IX.

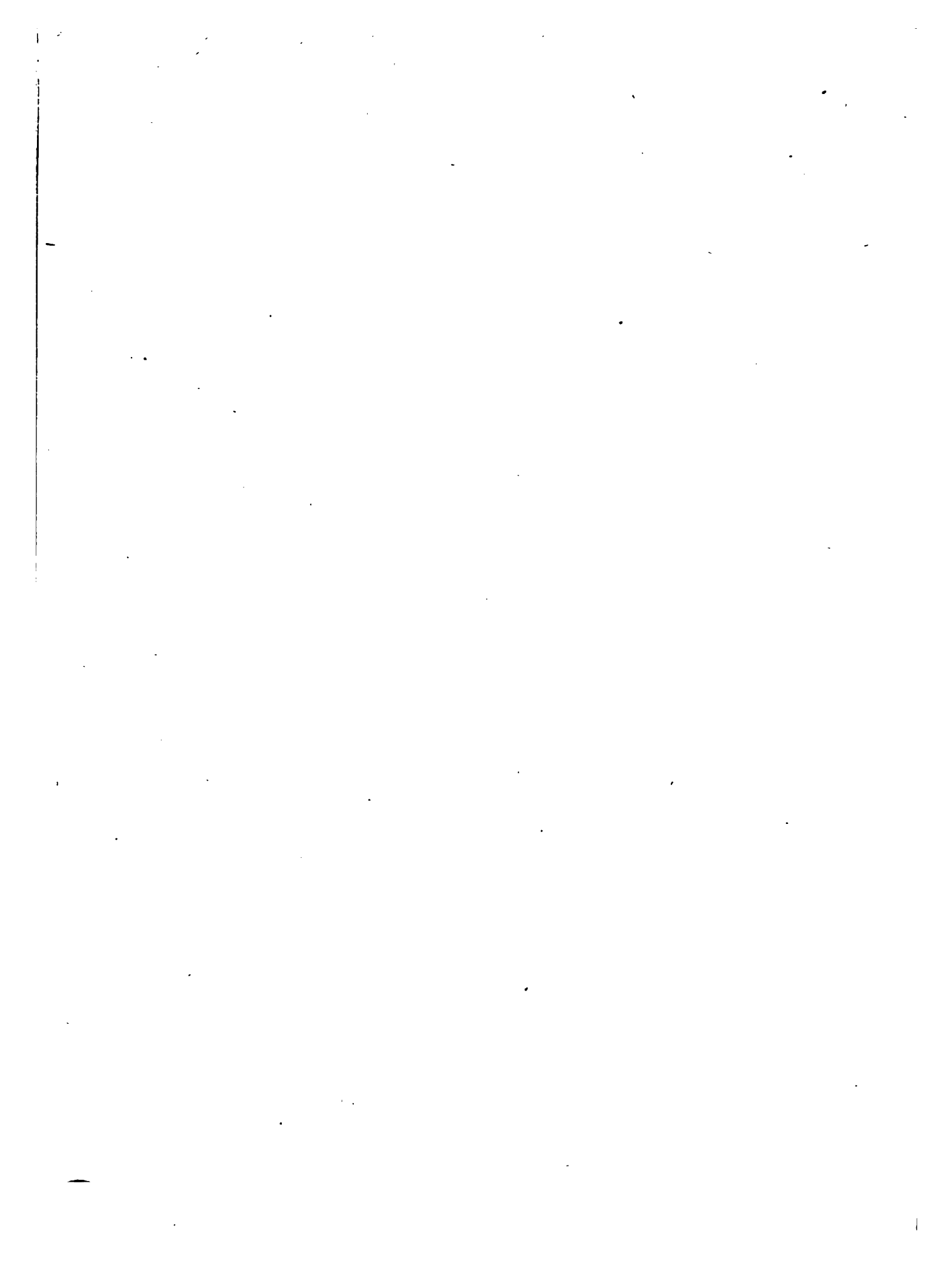
DR GLEN AND THE DAFT HIGHLAND LAIRD.

THE first of these figures represents a gentleman who enjoyed considerable celebrity in his day, at once for the amount of his wealth and the tenacity with which he held it. He had made a fortune abroad in the practice of his profession; and, in his latter years, returned to his native country—not to enjoy it. He was twice married. On the second occasion he had attained the discreet age of seventy; and it is said that, amongst the other soft and captivating things which the venerable lover whispered into the ear of the young lady on whom his choice had fallen, to induce her to receive his addresses, was the promise of a carriage. To this promise the Doctor was faithful. The carriage was got—but no horses. “That’s more than I bargained for,” said the Doctor; “I promised a carriage, and there it is; but I promised no horses, neither shall you have them.” And here again the Doctor was as good as his word. The consequence was a quarrel with his young wife, aggravated by certain attempts, on her part, to revolutionize his house. The result may be anticipated—three weeks after the marriage a separation took place by mutual consent, the husband settling a sufficient alimient on his affectionate spouse.

There is another anecdote of the Doctor’s happy talent for saving, but of so incredible and absurd a character, that, assured as we are of its truth, we have some hesitation in mentioning it. It is said that, on the death of his wife—the first, we presume—he adopted the ingenious expedient of attempting to procure a *second-hand* coffin to hold her remains, for lessening the funeral expenses on this melancholy occasion.

At a very advanced period of life, the Doctor was prevailed upon by a friend, but by what process of reasoning is not known, nor can be conjectured, to enter the society of Freemasons—a step which not a little surprised every one who knew him, or was aware of his penurious habits. How much was their surprise increased, when they found the Doctor entering, as he did, into all the spirit of the association, whether in its business or its pleasures, with an ardour and enthusiasm unequalled by the youngest member! The Doctor became, in truth, in so far at least as the circumstance of his connexion with the brethren was concerned, a totally changed man. He headed deputations, presided at lodges, and became, in short, the leading spirit of the fraternity. The members of the Lodge of St Andrew’s, to which he belonged, and which was at this juncture rather barren of funds, early saw, in the Doctor’s new-born passion, a very pleasant and rational prospect of effecting an improvement in their exchequer. Without loss of time they flattered the Doctor’s vanity by electing him their Master, and ere long





they succeeded in obtaining from him no less a sum, it is said, than one hundred pounds sterling.

The Doctor was a regular attendant at church, and always contributed to the plate. That his charity on such occasions might be duly appreciated by those who were in attendance, instead of throwing in his halfpence in the usual careless way, he piled them up into one solid massive column of copper, and gently placing the pillar down, left it, a conspicuous monument of his benevolence.

One act of public spirit, however, does mark the Doctor's life, and if his motive in performing it, as was uncharitably reported at the time, was vanity, one cannot help being struck with the ingenuity which directed him on the occasion. He presented the governors of the Orphan Hospital with a bell! His fame was thus literally sounded throughout the city; yet, lest any should have been ignorant of the gift, he took care when in company, on hearing it ring, to advert to its fine tone, and thus lead the way to a narrative of his generosity.

The other figure in the Print represents Laird Robertson holding up one of his sticks; the undermost figure represents Principal Robertson; the one on the top the eccentric Dr James Graham, no great favourite of Dr Glen's. Being once troubled with sore eyes, after in vain trying the prescriptions of several physicians, he applied to Dr Graham, who cured him in a very short time, for which he expressed great gratitude. Wishing to make him some remuneration, he consulted some of the young members of the Faculty; and, as the most genteel way of doing what he wished, they recommended him to invite the Doctor and a few of his own friends to dinner in Fortune's, (the most fashionable tavern at that time,) and provide himself with a handsome purse, containing thirty guineas or so, and offer it to the Doctor, which they assured him he would not accept. They accordingly met, and after a few bottles of wine had been drunk, the old Doctor called Dr Graham to the window, and offered him the purse, which he at once accepted, and, with a very low bow, thanked him kindly for it. The Doctor was so chagrined that he soon left the company, who continued till a pretty early hour enjoying themselves at his expense.

The father of Dr Glen was a native of the west of Scotland, and had three sons, all of whom were prosperous in the world. One of these gentlemen was appointed governor of one of the West India Islands, where he amassed a large fortune, of which he left L.30,000 to his niece, the daughter of the third brother, who ultimately succeeded to the reversion of the Doctor's property. This amiable lady was subsequently married to the late Earl of Dalhousie, father to the present noble Earl.

Dr Glen enjoyed, by purchase, an annuity from the city of Edinburgh, of which he lived so long to reap the benefit, that the magistrates gave up all hopes of his ever dying at all, and began to consider him as one of the perpetual burdens of the city. He, however, died in 1786.

No. X.

A SLEEPY CONGREGATION.

THE wit of this Print consists in representing a set of citizens, well known as little addicted to church-going, listening to a discourse from the most evangelical clergyman in the city, in a place of worship whose ordinary congregation was noted above all others for their ultra-Presbyterianism. The clergyman is the celebrated Dr Webster, the precentor John Campbell, the place of worship the Tolbooth Church, being that in which Dr Webster was the stated clergyman. The church was the south-west portion of St Giles's, and was so designated from its having been used in the reign of James VI. as a town-house, the supreme civil court being usually, and the Parliament occasionally, held in it. The congregation in Dr Webster's time were known by the appellation of "the Tolbooth Whigs," as making the nearest approach in practice and doctrine to the severe spirits of the days of Cameron and Cargill. It may well be supposed with what mirth the wit of Mr Kay would be hailed by those to whom the character of both the real and the imaginary congregation was familiar.

Dr Alexander Webster was the son of an equally distinguished preacher, who had suffered in the persecuting times, and was afterwards clergyman in this very church.* Born in 1707, and educated to his father's profession, he was, at an early age, ordained to the charge of Culross in Fife, where he made himself so remarkable for his eloquence, his piety, and generally for the fidelity, activity, and diligence, with which he discharged the duties of the pastoral office, that he received a unanimous call, four years after his first ordination, from the congregation of the Tolbooth Church, to which charge he was inducted on the 2d June 1737.

In this situation, which he held for the long period of forty-seven years, Dr Webster continued to practise, on a scale extending with his opportunities, all those useful and amiable qualities which had distinguished him at the outset of

* The elder Webster was asserted by the Jacobites to be mad. There is a curious "Godlie Ballad," lately privately printed from a MS. in the Advocates' Library, of which he is the subject, and in which he is most severely handled. It commences—

"Great Meldrum is gone, let Webster succeed,
A rare expounder of Scripture and creed,
Who's learning is nonsense, who's temper is bad,
It's predestination that made him so mad.

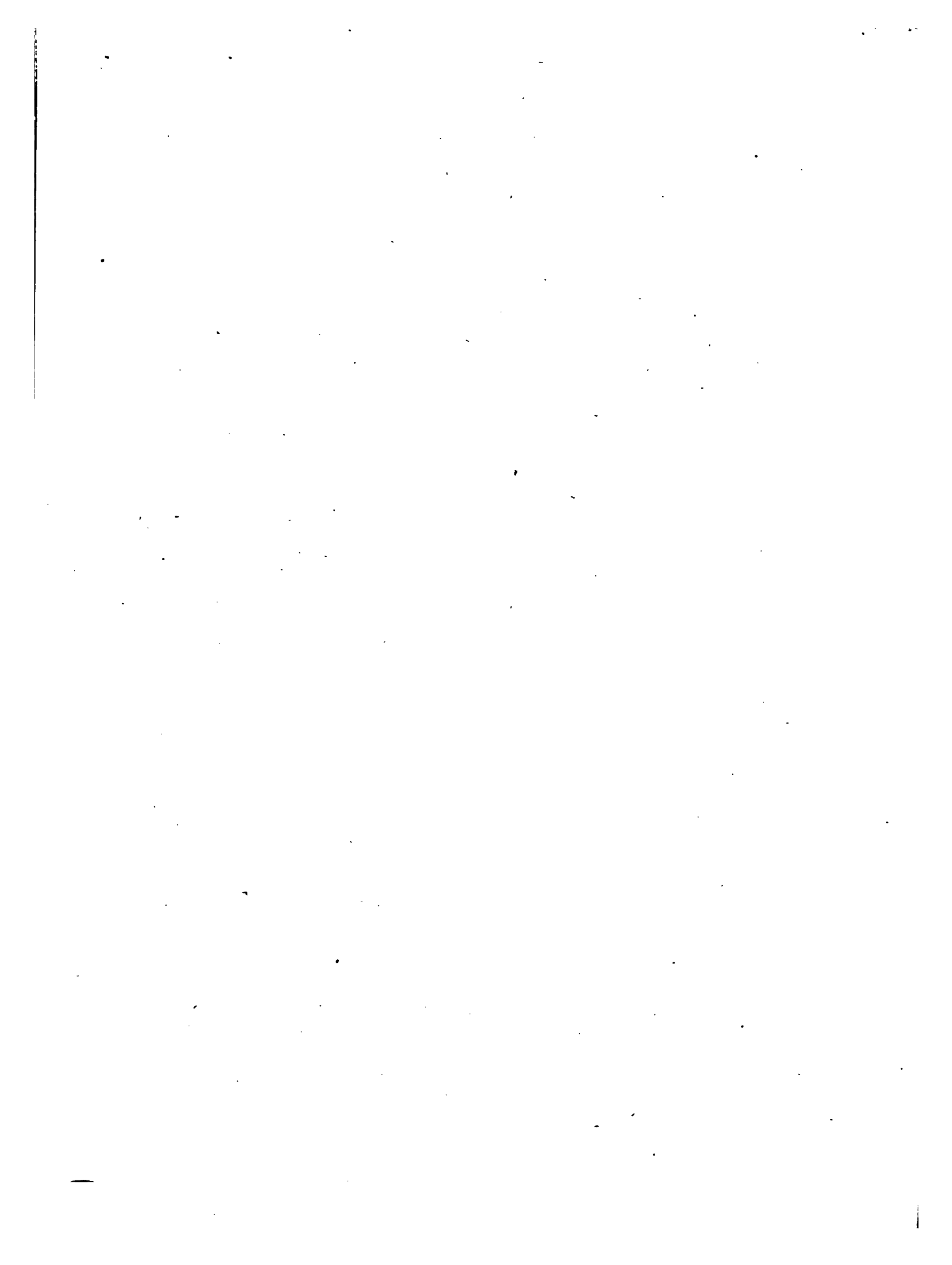
By algebra he makes it appear to be true,
Three deils and a-half possess everie sow.

Though his head be light, his carcass is heavy,
His bellie a midden of sack, flesh, and gravie," &c. &c. &c.

He died May 17, 1720.



JK. 1785



his career. He soon became one of the most popular men of his day in the city—esteemed for the generosity and benevolence of his disposition, respected for his worth, and admired for his genius and talents.

Amongst the innumerable schemes for the benefit of the destitute, and of suffering humanity in all its forms of misery, which this excellent man either suggested or promoted, the most conspicuous was the establishment of a fund for the widows of the clergy of the Church of Scotland; an institution which owes its existence chiefly to his benevolence, and its admirable system to his singular powers of arithmetical calculation, a department of intellectual labour in which he greatly excelled.

With all his other popular qualities, Dr Webster possessed a great degree of firmness and intrepidity of character, of which he exhibited a very striking instance when the rebels were in possession of Edinburgh. At that crisis, when most other men of his political sentiments and notoriety would have sought safety in silence or retirement, he boldly mounted his pulpit, and employed his eloquence in denouncing the cause of the Chevalier, and in urging his hearers to retain their fidelity to the House of Hanover.

Nor was his genius, sound judgment, and excellent taste, recognised only in matters connected with his clerical capacity. They were so well known, and so highly appreciated, that he was uniformly consulted by the magistrates of Edinburgh in all public undertakings.

Dr Webster was married to Miss Mary Erskine, a young lady of fortune, daughter of Colonel John Erskine, (brother of Sir Charles Erskine of Alva, Bart.) by Euphemia, daughter of William Cochrane, Esq. of Ochiltree. She was nearly related to the family of Dundonald, and was courted by some of the first Peers of the realm. This connexion originated in a somewhat curious manner. During his residence at Culross, Mr Webster was employed by a friend to procure for him the good graces of Miss Erskine, who then resided at Valleyfield, in the neighbourhood. This duty he faithfully performed, and urged his friend's suit with all the eloquence he was master of, but to no purpose. At length, wearied with his importunities in the cause of another, and at the same time prepossessed by his own figure and accomplishments, both of which were eminently attractive, Miss Erskine plumply remarked to him, "You would come better speed, Sandy, if you would speak for yourself;" and on this hint Mr Webster did indeed speak, and to such purpose, that they were shortly afterwards married.

This union, though thus brought about by a circumstance somewhat out of rule on the lady's part, was a happy one—Dr Webster's affection for his wife never suffering the slightest abatement of that ardour so forcibly expressed in the following stanza, addressed to her soon after their marriage:—

"When I see thee I love thee, but hearing adore,
I wonder, and think you a woman no more,
Till mad with admiring, I cannot contain,
And, kissing those lips, find you woman again."

No less remarkable for his wit and convivial powers, than for his more solid qualities, Dr Webster was as great a favourite at the social board as in the pulpit.

He was particularly fond of claret. A friend on whom he called one day, and who was aware of his predilection for this liquor, said he would give him a treat, adding that he had a bottle of claret which was upwards of forty years old. The bottle was accordingly produced, but proved to be only a pint bottle.

"Dear me," said the disappointed Doctor, taking it up in his hand, "but it's unco little o' its age!"

Upon another occasion, after he had, with a few friends, not spared the bottle, some one inquired, "What would his parishioners say if they met him thus?"—"What?" says the Doctor, "they wadna believe their ain een although they saw it."

This excellent and much-respected man died on the 25th January 1784, in the 77th year of his age.

No. XI.

DR JAMES GRAHAM GOING ALONG THE NORTH BRIDGE, IN A HIGH WIND.

He is here represented in the dress in which he attended the funeral of Dr Gilbert Stuart, who died 28th August 1786, in white linen clothes and black silk stockings, his usual attire. The lady walking before him is said to resemble a Miss Dunbar, sister of Sir James Dunbar, Bart.

Dr James Graham was born at the head of the Cowgate, Edinburgh, 23d June 1745.

His father, Mr William Graham, saddler in Edinburgh, was born in Burntisland in 1710. He married in 1738, in Edinburgh, Jean Graham, (born 1715,) an English lady; they had issue three daughters and two sons. The eldest daughter was married to a Mr Smith; the second to the celebrated Dr Arnold of Leicester, Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh; and the third to Mr Begbie, town smith. James was the eldest son; both he and his younger brother William studied medicine. The two brothers, in their early years, were not unfrequently mistaken for one another, from their strong family likeness, and from following the same profession. William, after practising some time as physician, abandoned medicine entirely, and entered into holy orders. He was an Episcopalian, and married the celebrated writer, Mrs Catharine Macaulay,* sister to Alderman Sawbridge; she died at Binfield, in

* This lady's writings were so enthusiastically admired by the Rev. Dr Wilson, prebendary of Westminster, that during her lifetime he caused a statue of her, as the Goddess of Liberty, to be set up in the chancel of his church in Walbrook, which was, however, removed at his death, by his successor in office.





June 1791. Mr William Graham was alive in July 1836, being eighty-one years of age. He then resided in Leicestershire, where he was deservedly held in high estimation.

Dr James Graham, after having finished his studies in Edinburgh, went to England, and began business in Pontefract, where, in the year 1770, he married Miss Mary Pickering, daughter of a gentleman of that place, by whom he had a son and two daughters. His eldest daughter was married to the late Mr Stirling, minister of Dunblane, a very accomplished lady, who is still alive. The other daughter died in the apartments of the Observatory on the Calton Hill, of consumption, about four years before her father; his son is still alive.

After residing some time in England, Dr Graham went to America, where he figured as a philanthropic physician, travelling for the benefit of mankind, to administer relief, in the most desperate diseases, to patients whose cases had hitherto puzzled the ordinary practitioners. Having the advantage of a good person, polite address, and agreeable conversation, he got into the first circles, particularly in New England, where he made a great deal of money. He then returned to Britain; and, after making an excursion through England, during which, according to his own account, he was eminently successful in curing many individuals whose cases had been considered desperate, he visited Scotland, and was employed by people of the first quality, who were tempted to put themselves under his care by the fascination of his manner, and the fame of his wondrous cures. So popular was he, that he might have settled in Edinburgh to great advantage, but he preferred returning to England. He fixed his abode in the metropolis, where he set on foot one of the most original and extravagant institutions that could well be figured, the object of which was for "preventing barrenness, and propagating a much more strong, beautiful, active, healthy, wise, and virtuous race of human beings, than the present puny, insignificant, foolish, peevish, vicious, and nonsensical race of Christians, who quarrel, fight, bite, devour, and cut one another's throats about they know not what."*

The "Temple of Health," as he was pleased to term it, was an establishment of a very extraordinary description, and one in which all the exertions of the painter and statuary—all the enchantments of vocal and instrumental music—all powers of electricity and magnetism, were called into operation to enliven and heighten the scene. In a word, all that could delight the eye or ravish the ear—all that could please the smell, give poignancy to the taste, or gratify the touch, were combined to give effect to his scheme—at least such was his own account.

Of his numerous puffs on the subject, one may be selected by way of a specimen:—

"TEMPLE OF HEALTH AND HYMEN, PALL-MALL, NEAR THE KING'S PALACE.

"If there be one human being, rich or poor, male, female, or of the doubtful gender, in or near this great metropolis of the world, who has not had the

* Such are the *ipsisima verba* of one of the Doctor's advertisements.

good fortune and the happiness of hearing the celebrated lecture, and of seeing the grand celestial state bed, the magnificent electrical apparatus, and the supremely brilliant and unique decorations of this magical edifice, of this enchanting Elysian palace!—where wit and mirth, love and beauty—all that can delight the soul, and all that can ravish the senses—will hold their court, this, and every evening this week, in chaste and joyous assemblage! let them now come forth, or for ever afterwards let them blame themselves, and bewail their irremediable misfortune.”*

In this way his numerous auditors were properly prepared for his lectures, which were delivered in the most elegant and graceful manner. The following letter, his own production perhaps, from a periodical work of the time, descriptive of his Temple and lectures, is curious :—

“ TO THE EDITOR OF THE WESTMINSTER MAGAZINE.

“ *Audi alteram partem.*

“ SIR—I have heard many persons exclaim against Dr Graham’s Hymeneal Lectures, and reprobate him in the most opprobrious terms; but having not been myself to see his Temple of Hymen, I thought it unjust to censure or join in condemning that which I had never seen, or him whom I had never heard. Curiosity (a passion remarkable in the people of England) prompted me to go with an intimate friend and pay a visit to the Doctor, whom I found attended by about forty gentlemen, who were intent on listening to his connubial precepts. I gave attention, and determined to judge impartially of what I heard as well as saw, and the following is the result of my unprejudiced observations :—

“ His rooms are fitted up in a very elegant and superb manner, far beyond any thing I ever saw, and must have cost him a very considerable sum of money. A statue of Beauty, or *Venus de Medicis*, is the only object that appeared to me censurable, as likely to excite unchaste ideas. His lecture is well adapted to the subject he treats on, and is interspersed with many judicious remarks, well worthy the attention of the Legislature, to prevent prostitution and encourage matrimony. The nature of the subject naturally obliges him to border on what is generally termed indelicacy; but he always endeavours to guard his audience against imbibing sentiments in any respect repugnant to virtue, chastity, and modest deportment; he earnestly recommends marriage as honourable in all, and as strongly execrates prostitution and criminality; wherein then is he to blame?

“ BOB SHORT.

“ December, 1781.”

* The articles with which the Temple of Health, in London, was furnished were subsequently removed to Edinburgh, and offered for sale by Dr Graham, in the third house from the High Street, on the South Bridge.

No. XII.

DR JAMES GRAHAM LECTURING IN EDINBURGH.

IN Spring 1783, Doctor Graham again paid a visit to his native city, and for the first time gave his fellow-citizens a lecture, which the Magistrates of Edinburgh deemed improper for public discussion, and accordingly endeavoured to suppress by the arm of power. The Doctor immediately published "an appeal to the public," in which he attacked the Magistrates, and particularly the Lord Provost, John Grieve, Esq. For this, the Procurator-Fiscal raised a criminal complaint in the Bailie Court against him, and as his real prosecutors were his judges—the result was, his being mulcted in L.20, and imprisoned till the fine was paid. He suffered, however, no very tedious imprisonment, as his supporters collected the money amongst themselves. He also continued to give his eccentric lectures as long as the public curiosity lasted; and to induce people to hear his lectures, the admission being three shillings, he promised each person a book worth six shillings—viz. a copy of his lectures! The admission was reduced subsequently to two shillings, and lastly to one. The following advertisement was circulated by him in December 1783:—

"DOCTOR GRAHAM desires to inform the Ladies and Gentlemen of Edinburgh, that at the earnest desire of many respectable persons, he proposes to favour them on Monday evening next, the 27th instant, and the three following evenings, with A LECTURE on the simplest, most rational, and most effectual means of preserving uninterrupted bodily Health, and the most delightful mental sunshine or serenity to the very longest period of our Mortal Existence: Teaching them how to build up the human Body into a fair and firm Temple of Health, and to repose the Soul on the all-blessing Bosom of that pure, temperate, rational, and Philosophical Religion!—which alone is accepted of God!!! and truly useful to all his Creatures. The Lecture being therefore at once Medical, Moral, and Religious; the Technical Terms and nonsensical jargon of the followers of the Medical Trade or Farce being avoided, and the whole treated in a plain, practical, and useful manner, Dr GRAHAM trusts it will prove perfectly satisfactory, and of the highest importance to the health and happiness, temporal and eternal, of every sober and intelligent person who honours him with their company; as the precepts and instructions proposed to be delivered in this long and pathetic Lecture cannot fail, if duly practised, to preserve them in health, strength, and happiness, through the course of a long, useful, and truly honourable life *here*; and to prepare them for the enjoyment of eternal felicity *hereafter*.

"The Lecture will be delivered on MONDAY EVENING next, the 27th, and the three following evenings, precisely at Seven o'clock, in St Andrew's Chapel, foot of Carrubber's Close, next to the New Bridge.

"Admission only One Shilling.

“Ladies are requested to come early, in order to be agreeably accommodated with seats, as the Lecture will begin *exactly* at Seven o'clock.

“N.B. Dr G. has not the least intention of lecturing any more for several years in Edinburgh than the above four nights; and if the Chapel is not pretty full the two first nights, he will not repeat the lecture as proposed the two last nights, viz. on Wednesday and Thursday; and as the shilling paid for admission can only defray the various expenses, Dr G. hopes that the inhabitants of Edinburgh will esteem these lectures as very great and important favours conferred upon them.

“December, 1783.

“All Dr G.'s books and pamphlets are to be had at the Doctor's house, and at Mr Brown's, bookseller, Bridge Street.”

While his Temple of Health was in its glory, it cannot be doubted that such an exhibition, lauded as it was on all hands in the most extravagant terms, must have produced a great deal of money in such a city as London, where every species of quackery is sure to meet with support and encouragement; but Doctor Graham, instead of realizing a fortune, deeply involved himself by the great expense he was put to in maintaining the establishment in proper splendour. In his own expenditure he was very moderate; for he not only abstained from wine, spirits, and all strong liquors, but even from animal food—and, consistently with this mode of life, he recommended the same practice to others; and whilst confined in the Jail of Edinburgh, for his attack on the civic authorities, he preached—Sunday, August 17, 1783—a discourse upon Isaiah, xl. 6, “All flesh is grass;” in which he strongly inculcates the propriety of abstinence from animal food. In this odd production, of which two editions were afterwards published, he says, “I bless God! my friends! that he has given me grace and resolution to abstain totally from flesh and blood—from all liquors but cold water and balsamic milk—and from all inordinate sensual indulgences. Thrice happy! supremely blessed is the man who, through life, abstains from these things; who, like me, washes his body and limbs every night and morning with pure cold water—who breathes continually, summer and winter, day and night, the free open cool air—and who, with unfeigned and active benevolence towards every thing that hath life, fears and worships God in sincerity and in truth.”

In addition to the peculiarities pointed out by the Doctor in his discourse, he dissented in many other respects from the ordinary usages of mankind. He wore no woollen clothes; he slept on a hair-mattress, without feather-bed or blankets, with all the windows open; he said, and perhaps with some degree of truth, that most of our diseases are owing to too much heat:—and he carried his cool regimen to such an extent, that he was in terms with the tacksman of the King's Park, for liberty to build a house upon the top of Arthur's Seat, in order to try how far he could bear the utmost degree of cold that the climate

of Edinburgh affords; but, though the tacksman was willing, the noble proprietor would not listen to the project.

Amongst other eccentric plans recommended to his patients was that of earth-bathing,—which was neither more or less than burying them alive up to the neck in the earth, in which position they were to remain for ten or twelve hours. He tried this extraordinary remedy upon himself and one of his daughters, and actually induced his brother-in-law to follow their example. Other persons were also found simple enough to submit to this new species of temporary sepulture.

In 1787, this singular being appeared in a new character, as a special delegate from Heaven to announce the Millennium. He not only styled himself “The Servant of the Lord, O. W. L.” *i. e.* “Oh, Wonderful Love,” but attempted to begin a new chronology—dating his bills such a day of the first month of the New Jerusalem Church; but before the coming of the second month the prophet was, by order of the Magistrates, put under restraint, not indeed in prison, but in his own house, from whence he, some months afterwards, removed to the north of England. His religious frenzy appears to have lasted some time; and we learn from the following extract, copied from the *Whitehaven Packet*, that a year afterwards his mind still wandered:—

“WHITEHAVEN.—Tuesday morning, Dr James Graham was sent off to Edinburgh in the custody of two constables. This unfortunate man had, for some days past, discovered such marks of insanity as made it advisable to secure him.*—*August 22, 1788.*”

His death took place somewhat suddenly, in his house, opposite to the Archer's Hall, upon the 23d June 1794—it was occasioned by the bursting of a bloodvessel. He was buried in the Greyfriar's churchyard, Edinburgh. His widow survived him about seven years and died at Ardwick, near Manchester, in the year 1801.

His circumstances, during the latter period of his existence, were far from affluent. To one of his publications, however, he was indebted for an annuity of fifty pounds for life; for it happened that a gentleman in Geneva, who had perused it, found his health so much improved by following the advice of its author, that, out of gratitude, he presented him with a bond for the yearly payment of that sum.

With all his eccentricities, he had a benevolent and charitable disposition, and his conduct towards his parents was exemplary. Even when in his “high and palmy state,” he paid them every attention. Whilst in Edinburgh, he took

* Whether he ever got entirely quit of his religious fancies, is uncertain; and in a very complete and curious collection of tracts, advertisements, &c., by, or relative to, Dr Graham, occurring in the late Mr John Stevenson's sale catalogue for 1825, there is a “manuscript written expressly for Dr Graham, regarding his religious concerns, by Benjamin Dockray, a Quaker at Newtown, near Carlisle, in 1790,” which would seem to indicate that his mind, on that head, was not at that date entirely settled.

them every morning in his carriage, which was one of the most splendid description, for an airing, attended by servants in gorgeous liveries; and these worthies—old-fashioned Presbyterian Whigs of the strictest kind—were infinitely gratified by the “pomp and vanities” with which they were surrounded.

It would be very difficult to give an exact catalogue of Dr Graham's works. Such as we have seen are annexed. The list is far from complete.

I. The General State of the Medical and Chirurgical Practice exhibited; shewing it to be inadequate, ineffectual, absurd, and ridiculous. London, 1779. 12mo.

This passed through several editions; and an abstract was published at the small charge of sixpence.

II. Travels and Voyages in Scotland, England, and Ireland—including a Description of the Temple of Health, and Grand Electrical Apparatus, &c., which cost upwards of L.12,000. London, 1783. 12mo.

III. Private Medical Advice to Ladies and Gentlemen—to those especially who are not blessed with Children—sealed up, price One Guinea, alone, at the Temple of Health and of Hymen. The whole comprised in eight large folio pages.

IV. The Christian's Universal Prayer—to which are prefixed a Discourse on the Duty of Praying, and a Short Sketch of Dr Graham's Religious Principles and Moral Sentiments.

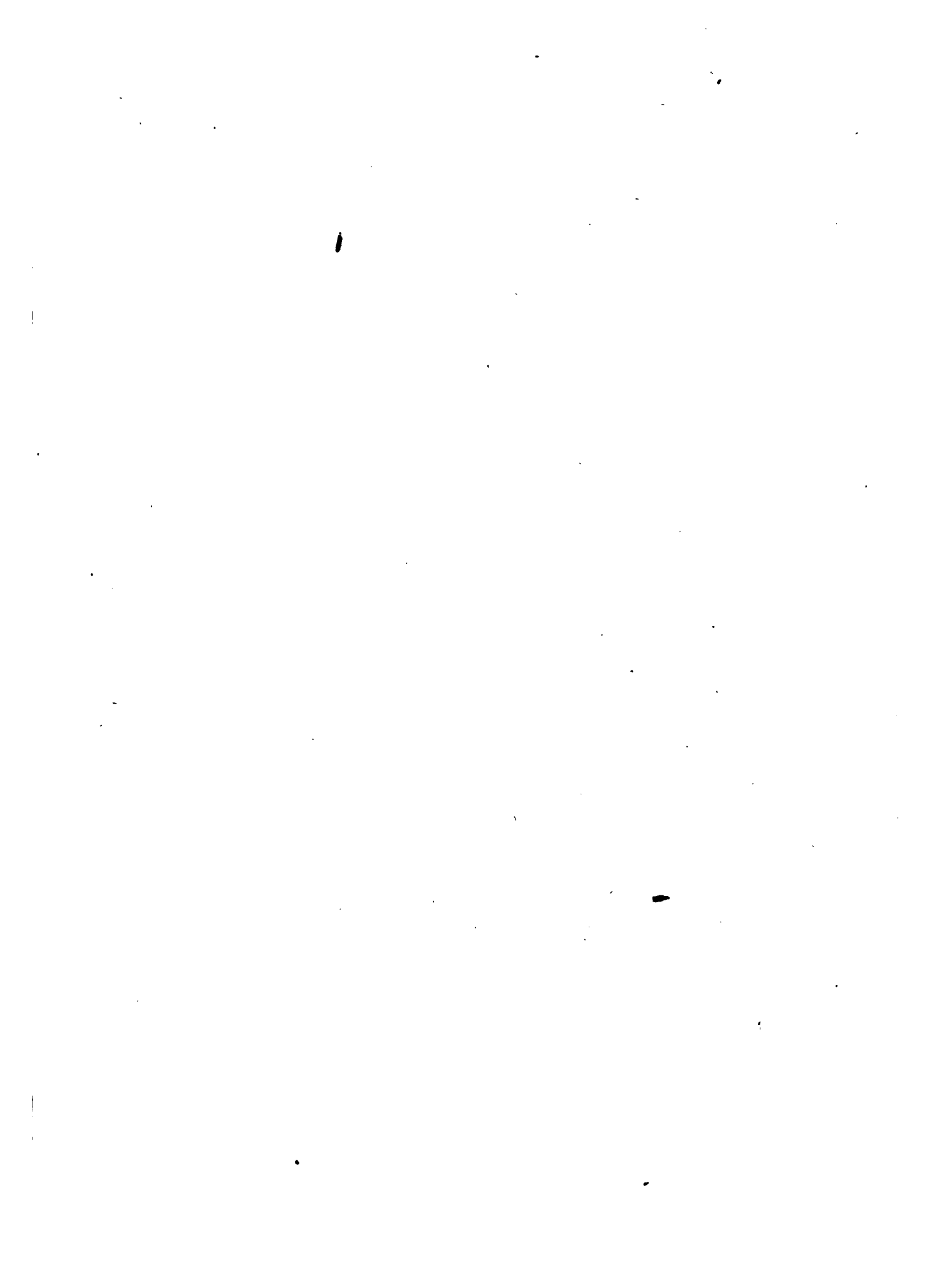
V. Hebe* Vestina's Celebrated Lecture; as delivered by her from the Electrical Throne, in the Temple of Health, in London. Price 2s. 6d.

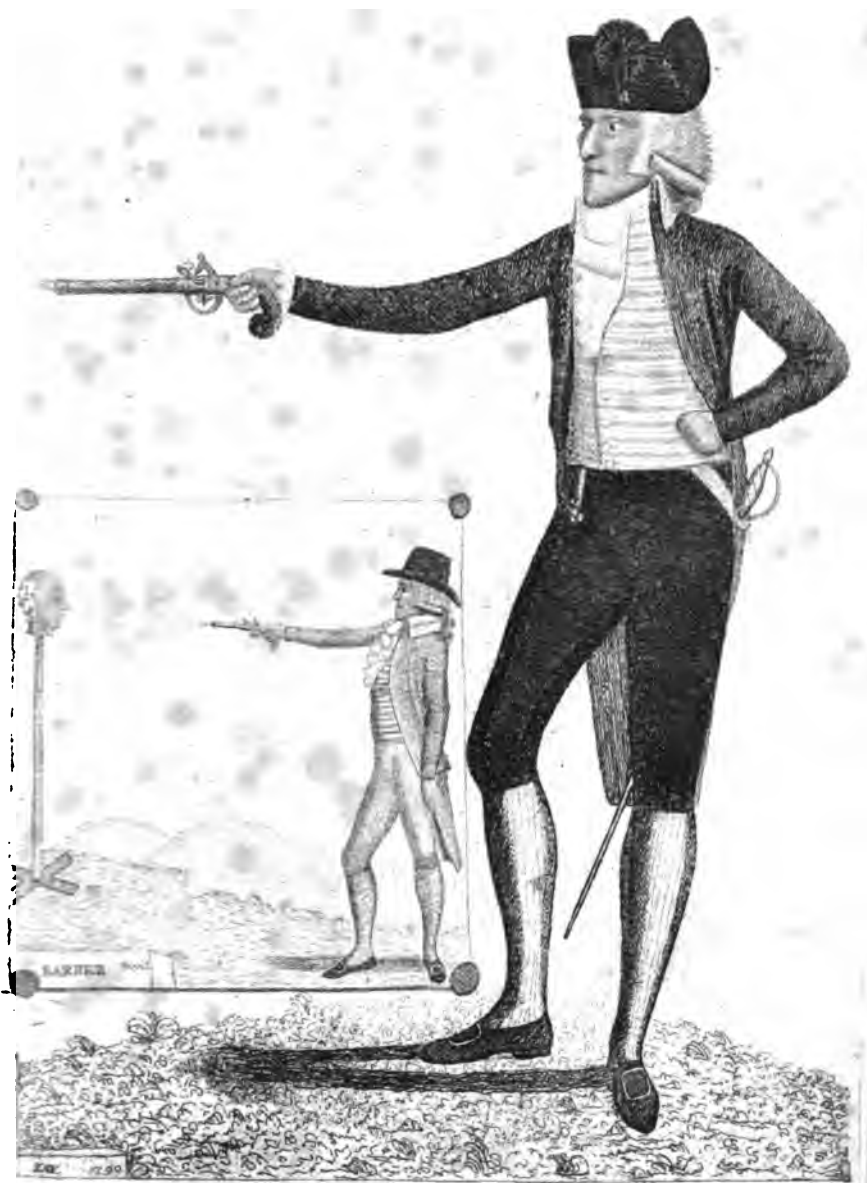
VI. A Discourse delivered on Sunday, August 17, 1783, in the Tolbooth of Edinburgh, by Dr James Graham, of the Temple of Health in London, while he was, by the most cruel and most unlawful stretch of power, imprisoned there for a pretended libellous Hand-bill and Advertisement, which was said to be published by him, against the Magistrates of that City. Isaiah, chapter xl., verse 6—“All flesh is grass.” Edinburgh, 1783. 4to.

VII. The Principal Grounds, Basis, Argument, or SOUL, of the New Celestial Curtain (or Reprehensory) Lecture, most humbly addressed to all Crowned Heads, Great Personages, and Others, whom it may concern. By James Graham, M.D. London, 1786.

VIII. A New and Curious Treatise of the Nature and Effects of Simple Earth, Water, and Air, when applied to the Human Body: How to Live for many Weeks, Months, and Years, without Eating any thing whatever, &c. By James Graham, M.D. London, 1793.

* Vestina, the “rosy goddess of health” was a very beautiful female, who appeared on a pedestal at the lecture. She was, upon the 6th September 1791, married to Sir William Hamilton, K.B. She died at Calais in great pecuniary distress, 16th of January, 1815.





THE FORTUNATE DUELIST

No. XIII.

JAMES MACRAE, ESQ.

JAMES MACRAE, Esq. of Holmains, had the misfortune to obtain a celebrity, by no means enviable, as a duellist. He was a capital shot, and, it was said, obtained his excellency by firing at a barber's block, kept by him for that purpose. In April 1790, the event occurred which had the effect of exiling him from his native land. The following account of the affair is taken from the *Scots Magazine*:—

“ DUEL BETWIXT SIR GEORGE RAMSAY AND MR MACRAE.

“ On Wednesday the 7th of April, Captain Macrae, thinking himself insulted by a footman of Lady Ramsay's at the theatre, beat him severely. Mr Macrae the next day met Sir George Ramsay in the street, when he told him he was sorry to have been obliged to correct a servant of his last night at the playhouse. Sir G. answered, the servant had been a short time with him, was Lady Ramsay's footman, and that he did not consider himself to have any concern in the matter. Mr Macrae then said he would go and make an apology to Lady Ramsay, which he did. On Monday the 12th, the footman commenced an action against Mr Macrae. On Tuesday the 13th, Mr Macrae sent the following letter to Sir G. Ramsay:—

“ ‘ Marionville, Tuesday, 2 o'clock.

“ ‘ SIR—I received last night a summons, at the instance of James Merry, your servant, whose insolent behaviour to me at the theatre on Wednesday last I was obliged to punish severely, which was the reason of my not insisting on your turning him off; but as he has chosen to prosecute me, I must now insist that he shall either drop the prosecution, or that you shall immediately turn him off. As to his being Lady Ramsay's servant, it is of no consequence to me; I consider you as the master of your family, and expect what I have now demanded shall be complied with. I am, sir, your humble servant,

“ ‘ JAMES MACRAE.

“ Addressed, ‘ Sir George Ramsay, St Andrew Square.’

“ Sir George returned the following answer:—

“ ‘ SIR—I am just now favoured with your letter. I was ignorant that my servant had commenced a prosecution until your letter informed me. He meets no encouragement from me; and I hope, on considering the matter farther, you will not think it incumbent on me to interfere in any respect, especially as the man at present is far from being well. I am, sir, yours, &c.

“ ‘ Tuesday, half past three.’

“ ‘ GEORGE RAMSAY.

Before his flight, Captain Macrae resided at Marionville, a villa near Edinburgh, where he had an apartment fitted up for private theatricals,* a species of amusement by no means common in Scotland, and for his attachment to which he was greatly censured.

A story is told of him while residing there, which does credit to his generosity of disposition. One of his servants having done something in a manner that did not please him, he struck him, whereupon the man muttered that "he durst not strike him so, if he were one of his fellow-servants in the hall."—"Oh!" said the Captain, "if you are for a boxing-match, I shall give you a fair chance for it; only you must not strike me in the face."

This being agreed upon, down stairs they went, and fought till the Captain owned he had got enough, adding, "You are a bit of good stuff, sirrah; there are five guineas for you." The servant with great humility remarked, he would be content to be thrashed for as much every day.

No. XIV.

CAPTAIN PAGE AND CAPTAIN VICARS.

THEY were both officers in the 7th Regiment of Foot, which was in Edinburgh in 1786. A statuary once requested, as a great favour, to be allowed to take a model of Captain Vicars, who was allowed to be the handsomest man among 10,000, while the regiment lay at Gibraltar. The lady admiring his figure, is dressed in the costume of that day.

* "PRIVATE THEATRICALS.—The performance of the tragedy of the *Grecian Daughter*, which took place at Marionville on Friday last, (15th January 1790,) was in every respect delightful. Mr Macrae, in the first part of Dionysius, gave infinite satisfaction. His figure, which is remarkably handsome, and his countenance, as once manly and expressive, every way suited him for that character. He was particularly great in the third act, when describing to Philotas the cares that accompany a regal state. Sir John Wrottesley played the part of Philotas with great judgment. His voice was remarkably pleasing. Mr Kinloch was exceedingly great as Evander. His first scene with Euphrasia was very affecting. Mr Justice supported the part of Melancthon with much propriety. But it is impossible to do justice to Mrs Macrae in the character of Euphrasia; suffice it to say, that the part was never better performed on any stage, either by a Siddons or a Crawford.

"It is difficult to say whether her tragic or her comic powers are most excellent, as in both she gives equal satisfaction. Her performance of *Lady Racket*, in *Three Weeks after Marriage*, was superior to any thing we have ever seen of the kind. Mr Hunter, in *Sir Charles Racket*, was inimitable. His manner was easy, and perfectly that of a gentleman, and his mode of acting truly natural. Mr Justice, in *Druggot*, showed much zeal and comic humour, and gave proofs that he thoroughly understood the character."—*Edinburgh Evening Courant, Thursday, 26th January, 1790.*



Pl. 2. 286







Three CAPTAINS of PULVER'S GUARD

G.P. 1755

No. XV.

THREE CAPTAINS OF THE CITY GUARD.

GEORGE PITCAIRN,

GEORGE ROBERTSON, AND ROBERT PILLANS.

THESE three persons were all, as announced in the title, Captains of the Old City Guard of Edinburgh. This appointment was not generally held by military men; and it was frequently conferred upon decayed burghesses, whose character recommended them to the patronage of the Magistrates, and whose circumstances rendered this tolerably lucrative situation (which was *ad vitam aut culpam*) an object of some moment.

CAPTAIN PITCAIRN had originally been a cloth-merchant in the city, and had more than once served in the Magistracy. Having subsequently become embarrassed in his circumstances, he was appointed, on a vacancy occurring, to the Captaincy of the City Guard; but engaging, some time afterwards, in no very creditable speculation,* he lost both his situation and his character. He was the author of a "Treatise on the Fisheries," Edin. 12mo; for which the Trustees of the Society for Extending the Fisheries awarded him a gold medal. He died at Edinburgh, on the 17th of September 1791.

ROBERTSON, the second figure in the Print, had been an officer in the Dutch service previous to his appointment to a command in the City Guard, and was selected for the latter office with the view of improving the discipline and general military character of the corps. Of his private history nothing is known, nor was his professional career, as a civic soldier, which was very brief, distinguished by any remarkable event. He died at Edinburgh in the year 1787, and was succeeded by another military veteran, Captain Gordon.

PILLANS, the third figure, was originally a brewer in the vicinity of the city, and was for sometime one of the resident bailies of the then suburban districts of Potterrow and Portsburgh. It is alleged, that the gallant Captain was fully as dexterous at handling a bottle as a sword; and a certain rotundity observable in

* This was importing bad halfpence from England,—a species of traffic which was, about the latter end of the last century, carried to a great extent in this country. Whole barrels, and these in immense numbers, were brought down to Scotland, chiefly from Birmingham, and obtained for a considerable time a ready circulation; no one ever thinking of questioning either the weight or quality of the copper coin tendered to them. The value, as subsequently ascertained by the Magistrates, was, that seven of these half-

the accompanying likeness of him would, indeed, seem to favour the insinuation. He died in 1788, when he was succeeded by Captain Christie, formerly a sergeant in the South Fencible Regiment.

This Print is entitled "Three Captains of Pilate's Guard," in allusion to a popular fiction, that the City of Edinburgh had a town-guard before the birth of our Saviour; and that three of that body had joined the Roman troops after the invasion of Britain by Julius Cæsar, and were actually present with Pilate's troops at the Crucifixion.

No. XVI.

PROVOST DAVID STEUART,

AND

BAILIE JOHN LOTHIAN.

CONTRAST seems to have been the design of the artist in classing these two respectable citizens together—the Provost being a very handsome man, and the Bailie the reverse. The latter, from his great stoop and rotundity of shoulder, obtained from his brother bailies the *soubriquet* of "The Loupin-on-Stane."

PROVOST STEUART, a younger son of the family of Dalguise, carried on business as a banker in Edinburgh, in partnership with Robert Allan, Esq., under the firm of Allan and Steuart. He was, in 1778, elected one of the Merchant Councillors, and, in 1779, third Bailie. In 1780 local politics ran high; the re-election of Sir Laurence Dundas, Bart.,* the former member for the City of Edinburgh, was opposed by William Miller, Esquire, younger of Barskimming,† and the latter was returned to Parliament; but upon a petition, by his opponent, to the House of Commons, his election was (16th March 1781) set aside, and Sir Laurence declared sitting member. In this contest the Whig interest was zealously supported by Mr Steuart, who, upon the resignation of

pence were only equal to one Sterling penny of George III. At length the Magistrates of Edinburgh took cognizance of the affair, and ordered the alarm to be sounded by tuck of drum, (29th April 1767.) The consequence of this proceeding was, that the shopkeepers immediately began to weigh all halfpence that were offered them, refusing those that were not standard weight. This caution descended even to the old women who kept *stands* upon the street, every one of whom provided themselves with scales and weights for the same purpose.

* Sir Laurence Dundas, though of an ancient family, was the architect of his own fortune, and amassed vast wealth as Commissary-general of the army in Flanders. He was the second son of Thomas Dundas, one of the bailies of Edinburgh, who fell into difficulties which occasioned his bankruptcy. Sir Laurence had himself been for some time behind the counter—a circumstance which, coming to the Royal ear, prevented him, it was rumoured, from obtaining a coronet, the great object of his ambition. His son Thomas was more successful, as, upon the 13th of August 1794, he was raised to the peerage, by the title of Lord Dundas of Aske, in Yorkshire.

† Afterwards Sir William Miller, Bart., and presently one of the senators of the College of Justice.



Walter Hamilton, Esq., was elected Lord Provost. This office he filled, as usual, for two years.

The copartnery with Mr Allan* having been dissolved, Provost Steuart commenced business on his own account in Leith, as a general merchant. At a later date he became a wine-merchant in Edinburgh, but was far from successful in his commercial speculations. In his early years, with the view of following a mercantile profession, he resided for some time on the Continent, where he acquired an intimate knowledge of modern languages. He was a man of excellent taste, and passionately fond of literature.

He was a great book-collector, and his library, for its size, was one of the finest in Scotland. His residence abroad had given him great facilities for collecting rare and curious works. In May 1801, when he exposed a part of his library to sale by auction, it was described as "a small, but select collection of books, in which is to be found some of the finest specimens of typography extant, from the first attempt on wooden blocks until the present time." But the prices offered not coming up to Mr Steuart's expectations, the greater part were bought in, either by himself or his friends. Two of the finest specimens of early printing which now enrich the Library of the Faculty of Advocates were formerly in his possession, viz.—1st, The first edition of the Latin Bible, and one of the earliest books executed with moveable types, in two large volumes folio, supposed to have been printed by Guttemberg and Faust in the year 1450. The other is the Breviary of the Roman Church, beautifully printed on the finest vellum at Venice by Nicholas Jenson in 1478, and finely illuminated.

Provost Steuart married Miss Ann Fordyce, an Aberdeenshire lady, by whom he had sixteen children, five of whom, two sons and three daughters, are presently alive. In the latter part of life he suffered much as a martyr to the gout; and, finally, left Edinburgh about the year 1815. From that time he continued to reside with his son-in-law, Mr Mair,† at Gretna Hall, near Annan, where he died on the 17th May 1824.

MR JOHN LOTHIAN was a cloth-merchant in that shop, No. 313, High Street, in the west wing of the front of the Royal Exchange. He was elected one of the Merchants' Councillors, in 1762; and in 1768, upon the death of Bailie William Callender, was appointed third bailie in his stead; in 1769, he was one of the old bailies; in 1774, second bailie; in 1775, old bailie. He died unmarried, at Edinburgh, suddenly, on the 12th August 1790. He was second son of Richard Lothian, writer in Edinburgh, the eldest son of George Lothian, Esq., of Belsis, near Ormiston, in East Lothian, and cousin-

* Robert Allan was father of the late Thomas Allan, Esq., who bought the estate of Lauriston, in the county of Edinburgh, which had for nearly a century and a half been the property of the representatives of the celebrated John Law of Lauriston, who was born there.

† Mrs Mair was remarkable for the beauty of her face and the graceful elegance of her figure, but the sweetness of her manner was still more remarkable than either.

german of Dr William Lothian, senior minister of Canongate, author of the "History of the United Provinces of the Netherlands." Dr Lothian died in January 1783, and was buried in the Canongate churchyard, where a monument to his memory is erected, upon which is an elegant Latin inscription, by his friend Logan the poet, in the composition of which he was assisted by the late Professor Dalzel. It is printed in Dr Duncan's collection of epitaphs.

Bailie Lothian, though a very excellent person, was not remarkable for his literary acquirements. The late Mr Smellie, printer, invited him to attend the funeral of Mr [redacted] law, teacher and preacher of the gospel, Edinburgh; the funeral [redacted] was the dying request of that gentleman, written in Latin. The receipt of this circular puzzled the worthy magistrate exceedingly—for hours he turned it over and over again, without being able to make any thing of it. On a sudden a new light came upon him. He remembered that Mr Smellie had published some animadversions upon the conduct of the magistrates, and he sagely concluded this to be a fresh libel, not only upon the whole civic authorities, but upon himself in particular. Impressed with this idea, he determined to lay the matter before his brethren; and, accordingly, at the first meeting of Council, he threw the mysterious paper, with great indignation, on the table, observing, that this was another "*skit*" by that fellow Smellie on the magistracy! His astonishment may be well conceived, when those present, so far from sympathising with him, received his extraordinary communication with reiterated bursts of laughter.

No. XVII.

ALEXANDER HUNTER, ESQ. OF POLMOOD,

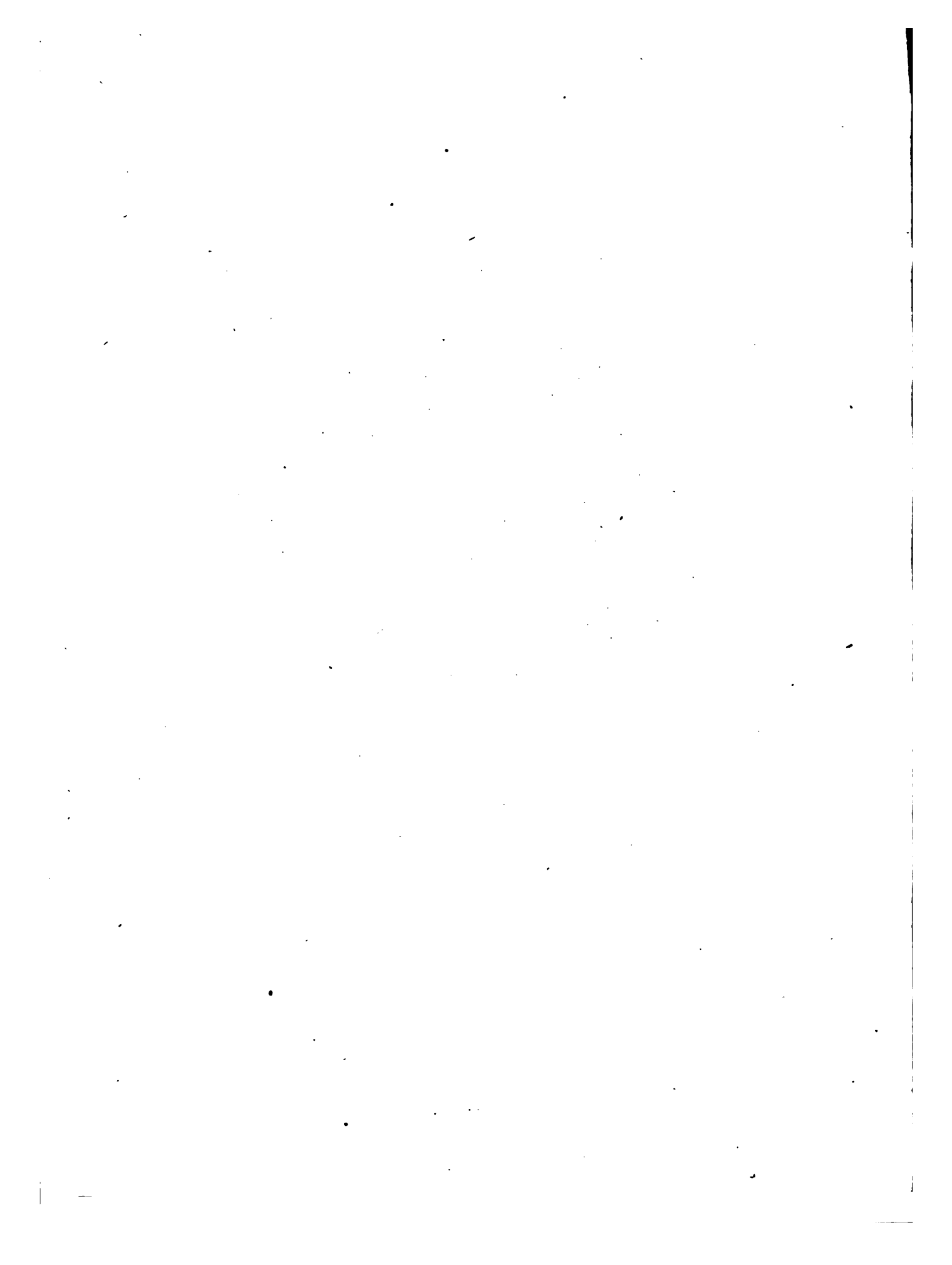
AND

ROGER HOG, ESQ. OF NEWLISTON.

THE figure on the left represents MR ALEXANDER HUNTER, an opulent merchant in Edinburgh. His fortunes were increased by the death of a son, who left his father considerable property. He also succeeded to the estate of Polmood, in the county of Peebles, under a disposition and deed of entail executed by Thomas Hunter (who was no relation), dated 28th January 1765. This person having died on the 20th of March following, the conveyance was liable to reduction, as executed on death-bed, provided an heir could be found, which was not a very easy matter, from the circumstance that the last possessor was descended from a natural son of Robert Hunter of Polmood, who died in the year 1689. The estate had been destined to the bastard and the heirs of his body, with a special declaration, that, in the event of failure, the estate



I say we are deservfully & wonderfully made



should return to the granter, his nearest heirs-male, and assignees whatsoever. The immediate heirs of Robert Hunter, after the alienation of the family estate, gradually sunk into obscurity, so that when Thomas Hunter died it became difficult to discover any traces of them. However, two parties came forward, the one an old man called Adam Hunter, subsequently a well-known individual in the Scottish courts, and a person of the name of Taylor, who afterwards withdrew his claim. Legal proceedings were instituted, but, after nearly fifty years keen contest, the aged competitor was defeated, the Court of Session and House of Lords deciding that he had not established his pedigree.

Hogg, in his "Winter Evening Tales,"* remarks, "You ask who is the owner of Polmood? This, it seems, is a hard question, since all the lawyers and judges in Scotland have not been able to determine it in the course of half a century. It is a positive and lamentable fact, that though it is as apparent to whom the estate of Polmood belongs, as it is to whom this hand belongs, it has been a subject of litigation, and depending in our Courts of Session these fifty years.—This is one remarkable circumstance connected with the place, which has rendered it unfamous of late years, and seems in part to justify an ancient prediction, that the Hunters of Polmood *were never to prosper.*"

To the correctness of the first part of this statement it is impossible to assent; for however strong the moral evidence may have been in favour of Adam Hunter, the legal proof of his pedigree was unquestionably defective.

Mr Alexander Hunter died at Edinburgh, 22d January 1786, and was succeeded by his nephew Walter, whose daughter Elizabeth, Lady Forbes, is presently in possession of Polmood.

The other figure is ROGER HOG, Esq. of Newliston, formerly a merchant in London. Being very parsimonious, he amassed a large fortune. Besides his landed property, he died possessed of personal estate to a vast amount, the succession to which was contested, and gave rise to the celebrated case of *Lashley against Hog*. It is said that Mr Hog, amongst other economical habits, used to dispose of his poultry; and, to superintend the trade himself, he usually brought them to market in his carriage. His son and heir going out one day to Newliston, to visit his father, met him on his way to town. The servants, knowing that their master was short-sighted, drove the carriage close up, that they might converse together. The son, in popping his head in at the carriage window, was, to his infinite astonishment, immediately seized by the nose by an enraged turkey-cock on his way to the market.

Mr Hog was remarkably corpulent, and very careless in his dress. He was a great admirer of Dr Graham, and a constant attendant during his lectures. He was accustomed to preface any thing he uttered with "I say"—a peculiarity noticed by the artist in the Print. He died at Newliston, on the 19th of March 1789.

* Vol. ii. p. 3. Edinburgh, 1820.

No. XVIII.

FRANCIS GROSE, ESQ., F.A.S. OF LONDON
AND PERTH.

THIS Print of the celebrated antiquary, Captain Grose,

A fine fat fodgeg wight, of stature short, but genius bright,

represents him in the act of copying an inscription from an ancient ruin, and was done during his visit to Edinburgh in 1789.

He was exceedingly corpulent, and used to rally himself with the greatest good humour on the singular rotundity of his figure. The following epigram, written in a moment of festivity by the celebrated Robert Burns, the Ayrshire bard, was so much relished by Grose, that he made it serve as an excuse for prolonging the convivial occasion that gave it birth to a very late hour:—

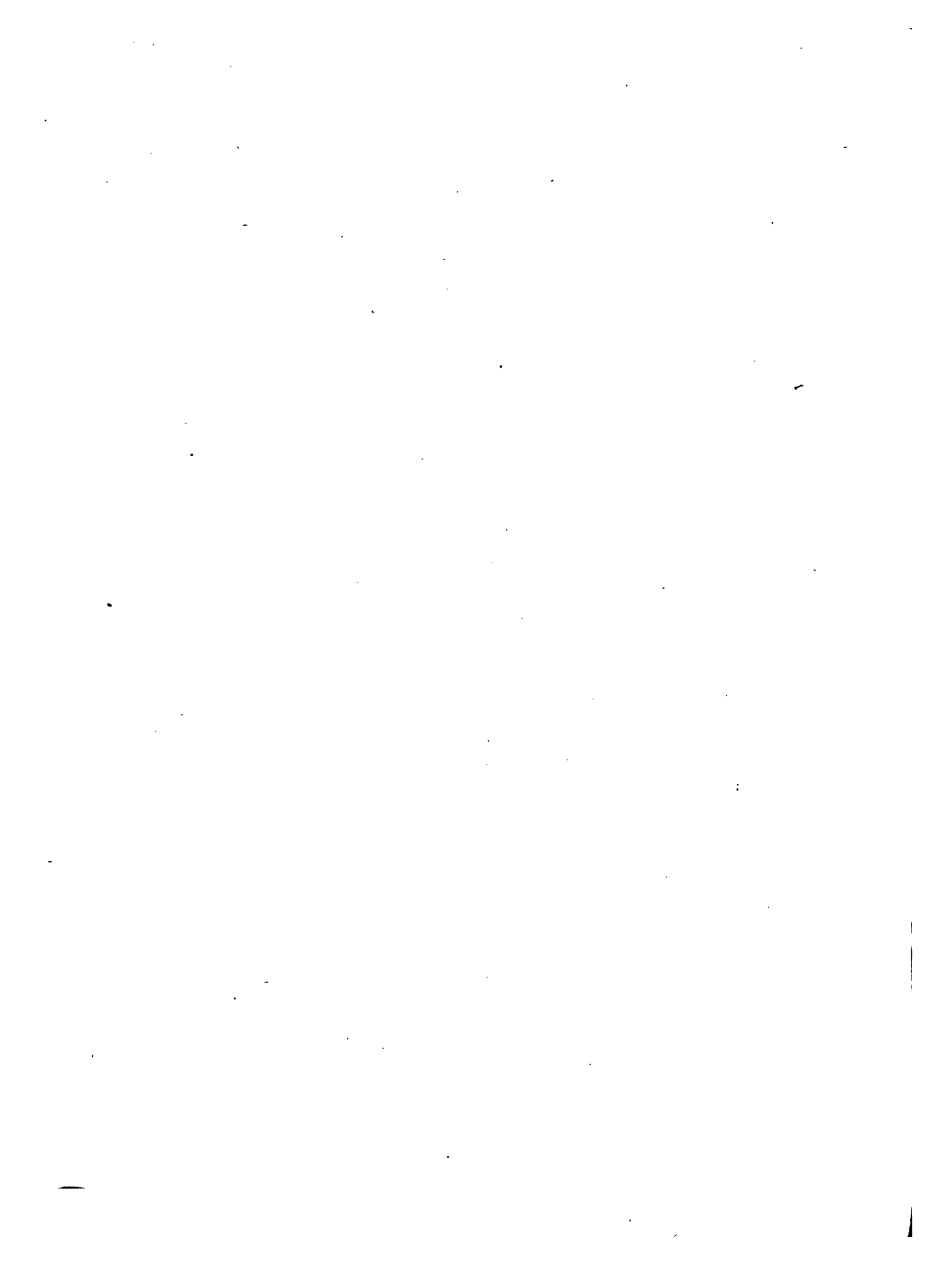
The Devil got notice that Grose was a-dying,
So whip I at the summons, old Satan came flying;
But when he approach'd where poor Francis lay moaning,
And saw each bed-post with its burthen a-groaning,
Astonished, confounded, cries Satan, '———,
I'd want him, ere take such a —— load.'

It may be noticed that Grose acknowledges his obligations to the poet in the following terms, in his *Antiquities of Scotland*:—"To my ingenious friend, Mr Robert Burns, I have been variously obligated: he not only was at the pains of making out what was most worthy of notice in Ayrshire, the county honoured by his birth, but he also wrote, expressly for this work, the pretty tale annexed to Alloway Church." This "pretty tale" is Burns' inimitable "Tam o' Shanter."

Captain Grose was born in the year 1731, and was the son of Mr Francis Grose of Richmond, jeweller, who fitted up the coronation crown of George the Second, and died in 1769. By his father he was left an independent fortune. In early life he entered the Surrey militia, of which he became Adjutant and Paymaster; but so careless was he that he kept no vouchers either of his receipts or expenditure. He used himself to say he had only two books of accounts, viz., the right and left hand pockets. The results may easily be anticipated, and his fortune suffered severely for his folly. His losses on this occasion roused his latent talents;—with a good classical education, a fine taste for drawing, encouraged by his friends, and impelled by his situation, he commenced the "Antiquities of England and Wales," the first number of which was published in 1773, and the fourth volume completed in 1776. In 1777 he resumed his pencil, and added two more volumes to his English Views,



THE British Antiquarian



in which he included the islands of Guernsey and Jersey, in 237 views, with maps of the counties, besides a general one. The work was reprinted in eight volumes, in 1787.

The success of this work induced Grose to illustrate in a similar manner "The Antiquities of Scotland." This publication, in numbers of four plates each, commenced in the beginning of 1789, and was finished in 1791, forming two volumes, with 190 views, and letterpress. Before the plates of the latter numbers were out of the engraver's hands, the author "turned his eyes to Ireland, who seemed to invite him to her hospitable shore, to save from impending oblivion her mouldering monuments, and to unite her, as she should ever be, in closest association with the British Isles. The Captain arrived in Dublin in May 1791,* with the fairest prospect of completing the noblest literary design attempted in this century." Such are the words of Dr Ledwich, to whom Grose had applied for assistance, and by whom the work was completed, in two volumes, in 1795. But, while in Dublin, at the house of Mr Hone, Grose was suddenly seized with an apoplectic fit, and died, in the fifty-second year of his age, upon the 12th of May 1791. The following epitaph proposed for him, was inserted in the *St James's Chronicle*, May 26 :—

Here lies Francis Grose :
On Thursday, May 12, 1791,
Death put an end to
His views and prospects.

Upon occasion of his marriage, Grose took up his residence in Canterbury, where he remained several years, during which period his wit and vivacity made him many friends. No one possessed more than himself the faculty of setting the table "in a roar," but it was never at the expense of virtue or good manners. He left several sons and daughters; one of the latter married Anketil Singleton, Esq., Lieut.-Governor of Sandguard Fort. His son, Daniel Grose, F.A.S., Captain of the Royal Regiment of Artillery, was, after several campaigns in America, appointed Depute-Governor of the new settlement at Botany Bay, 1790.

Besides the works above noticed, he published—

"A Treatise on Ancient Armour and Weapons; illustrated by plates taken from the original armour in the Tower of London, and other arsenals, museums, and cabinets." Lond. 1785. 4to. A Supplement was added in 1789.

"A Classical Dictionary of the Vulgar Tongue." Lond. 1785. 8vo.

"A Guide to Health, Wealth, Honour, and Riches." Lond. 1785. 8vo. This is a most amusing collection of advertisements, principally illustrative of the extreme gullibility of the citizens of London. A very humorous introduction is prefixed.

"Military Antiquities, respecting a History of the English Army, from the

* He was accompanied, for the last three years of his travels, by a young man whom he called his Guinea-pig, and who had caught his manner of etching.

Conquest to the Present Time." 2 vols. Lond. 1786-88. 4to. With numerous plates. This work was published in numbers.

"The History of Dover Castle. By the Rev. William Darrell, Chaplain to Queen Elizabeth." 1781. In 4to, the same size as the large and small editions of the Antiquities of England and Wales; with ten views engraved from drawings by Captain Grose.

"A Provincial Glossary; with a Collection of Local Proverbs and Popular Superstitions." Lond. 1788. 8vo.

"Rules for Drawing Caricatures; the subject illustrated with four copperplates; with an Essay on Comic Painting." Lond. 1788. 8vo. A second edition appeared in 1791, 8vo, illustrated with twenty-one copperplates, seventeen of which were etched by Captain Grose.

After his demise, was published "The Olio; being a collection of Essays, Dialogues, Letters, Biographical Sketches, &c. By the late Francis Grose, Esq., F.R.S. and A.S.;" with a portrait of the author. Lond. 1796. 8vo.

There are dissertations by him in the *Archæologia*, the one "On an Ancient Fortification at Christchurch, Hants," and the other "On Ancient Spurs."

Although the verses written by Burns during Captain Grose's peregrinations through Scotland collecting its antiquities are sufficiently well known, we cannot refrain from concluding this article with them:

Hear, Land o' Cakes, and brither Scots,
Frae Maidenkirke to Johnny Groats,
If there's a hole in a' your coats,
I rede you tent it;
A chiel's amang you takin notes,
And, faith, he'll prent it.

If in your bounds ye chance to light
Upon a fine, fat, fodgeg wight,
O' stature short, but genius bright,
That's he, mark weel—
An wow! he has an unco slight
O' cauk and keel.

By some auld, houlet-haunted biggin,
Or kirk deserted by its riggin,
It's ten to ane ye'll find him snug in
Some eldritch part,
Wi' deils, they say, safe 'n' colleguin'
At some black art.

Ilk ghaist that haunts auld ha' or chamer,
Ye gipsy-gang, that deal in glamor,
And you deep-read in hell's black grammar,
Warlocks and witches,
Ye'll quake at his conjurin hammer,
Ye midnight ———

It's tauld he was a sodger bred,
And ane wad rather fa'n than fled;
But now he's quat the spurtle-blade,
An dogakin wallet,
An taen the— *Antiquarian trade*,
I think they call it.

He has a fouth o' auld nick-nackets,
Rusty airn caps, an jingling jackets,
Wad haud the Loudians three in tackets
A towmond gude,
And parritch pats, an' auld want-backets,
Before the flood.

O' Eve's first fire he has an cinder;
Auld Tubal-Cain's fire-shool and fender;
That which distinguished the gender
O' Balaam's ass;
A broom-stick o' the witch o' Endor,
Weel shod wi' brass.

Forbye, he'll shape you aff fu' gleg,
'I he cut o' Adam's philibeg,
The knife that nicked Abel's Craig
He'll prove you fully,
It was a fauldin joctelag,
Or lang kail-gully.

But wad ye see him in his glee,
For sneikle-gee and fan has he,
Then set him down, and twa or three
Gude fellows wi' him;
And *port, O port!* shine thou a wee,
And then ye'll see him!

Now, by the powers o' verse and prose!
Thou art a dainty chiel, O Grose!
Whae'er o' thee shall ill suppose,
They sair misca' thee,
I'd tak the rascal by the nose
Wad sa), Shame fa' thee.





No. XIX.

CAPTAIN MINGAY, WITH A PORTER CARRYING
GEORDIE CRANSTOUN IN HIS "CREEL."

CAPTAIN MINGAY, the principal figure in the Print, was a native of Ireland. When in Edinburgh with his regiment, now about forty-five years since, he paid his addresses, and was subsequently married to the amiable Miss Webster,* daughter of the Rev. Dr Webster, which connexion proved peculiarly advantageous to the Captain, by whom he had several children, some of whom are still alive.

GEORGE CRANSTOUN, the little lachrymose-looking creature in the porter's creel, was a well-known character in this city, and must be remembered by many of its inhabitants, as it is not much more than thirty years since his death. He was of remarkably small stature, deformed in the legs, and possessed of a singularly long, grave, and lugubrious countenance. Endowed with a powerful voice, (notwithstanding his diminutive size,) and a good ear, George was originally a teacher of music, but latterly subsisted chiefly on charity, and was to be found constantly hanging about the door of the Parliament House.

He was a shrewd and intelligent little personage, an excellent singer of comic songs, and possessed of some humour, qualifications which procured him considerable patronage from the "choice spirits" of the day, and was the cause of his being frequently invited to their festive meetings. It was not unusual, on such occasions, to place Geordie on the sideboard. He was accustomed to receive a trifling pecuniary gratuity for the amusement he afforded; and, in addition, he was supplied with a liberal share of the good things that were going, particularly liquor, to which he was devotedly attached. When, as frequently occurred at such meetings, the little man got too tipsy to be able to walk home, a porter was generally sent for, who, putting him into his creel, as represented in the Print, conveyed him safely and comfortably to his residence, which was situated in a small court adjacent to the Shoemaker's Close, Canongate. One night, while waiting till the door should be opened, and resting the bottom of the creel on the wooden railing of the outside stair which led to Geordie's domicile, the porter unfortunately allowed him to tumble out, whereby he was so much injured that he never fully recovered from the effects of the accident.

It is said, that on one occasion, when no porter or creel was to be had, his waggish entertainers made him up into a package, and "addressed" him to his mother, "carriage paid." The honest woman believing it to be a

* A lady who inherited all the fine feelings and sensibilities of her mother.

present sent by some friend, was not a little amazed, and perhaps disappointed, on opening the parcel, to find that it contained only her "ain Geordie."

At mason meetings, which he regularly attended, and where he was always entertained gratis, he generally, when about to give a specimen of his accomplishments, mounted on one of the tables.

George was a frequent candidate for precentorships in the various churches of the city, but was uniformly rejected on account of the extreme oddity of his appearance, which not improbably would have excited feelings amongst the congregation not consistent with the solemnity of divine worship.

No. XX.

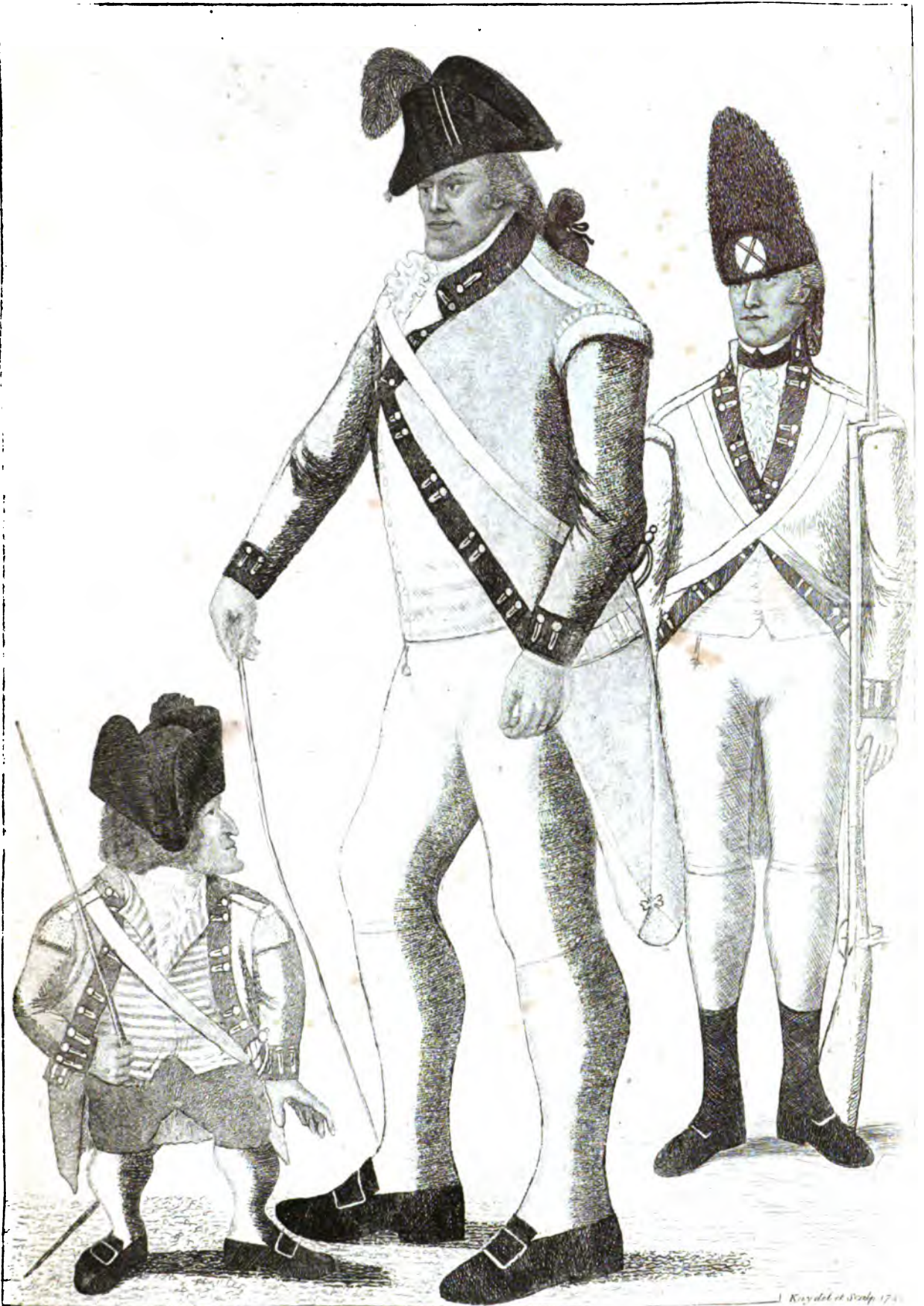
SAMUEL M'DONALD AND GEORGE CRANSTOUN.

SAMUEL M'DONALD, or Big Sam, as he was generally called, was a native of the parish of Lairg, in the county of Sutherland. During part of the American War, he was a private in the Sutherland Fencibles. He became afterwards fogleman to the Royals, and continued in this situation till the year 1791, when his late Majesty George the Fourth, then Prince of Wales, made him a lodge porter at Carlton House. This situation he relinquished in 1793, and was appointed a sergeant in the regiment in which he originally commenced his military career.

His mild manner and singularly clear and sonorous voice peculiarly fitted him for drilling recruits; and in this duty he was very frequently employed. Being of too large stature to stand in the ranks, he generally took his place on the right of the regiment when in line, and marched at the head when in column. The striking appearance of M'Donald on these occasions was not a little heightened by his being always accompanied by a mountain deer, of a size as remarkable as his own. This animal was so attached to him, that, when permitted, it would follow him through the streets.

When the Sutherland Fencibles were formed into the 93d regiment, M'Donald still retained his military predilection, and continued with his old companions till the day of his death, which took place at Guernsey on the 6th of May 1802. He was then 40 years of age. His death was occasioned by a collection of water in the thorax—an insidious disease to which the robust are more particularly liable.

M'Donald, from his great good nature and excellent moral character, was a universal favourite, and much respected in the different corps in which he served. The Countess of Sutherland, "judging, probably," says Colonel Stewart of Garth, "that so large a body must require more sustenance than his military pay could afford," generously allowed him half-a-crown per day over and above his pay.



J. Kay del. et Sculp. 1740.

SAM. *A Soldier Sam for a Lady, what Beau was ere arm'd completer*







GENTLEMEN! DRAW YOUR SWORDS

It is said that when Sam was in London, on one occasion he was advised to show himself for money, and that although he declined exhibiting himself in his own character, he so far acted on the hint as to dress in female attire, and advertise as "The remarkably tall woman." By this ingenious expedient, Sam became so well furnished with cash that his expenditure attracted the notice of his Colonel, who being curious to ascertain in what way he had obtained his supplies, interrogated Sam, who candidly disclosed the fact, and in this way the secret transpired.

Sam was once persuaded to appear on the stage, whilst in the service of his late Majesty, at the request of his Royal Master. This took place at the Opera-House in the Haymarket, then occupied by the Drury-Lane Company, upon occasion of the representation of a dramatic entertainment, called "Cymon and Iphigenia," and in which he acted the appropriate part of *Hercules*.*

Numberless anecdotes are told of M'Donald, illustrative of his great strength. On one occasion, having been challenged by two soldiers of his own regiment, on the understanding that he was to fight both at once, Samuel agreed, but said, as he had no quarrel with them, he should wish to shake hands before they began. One of the combatants instantly held out his hand. Samuel took hold of it, but, instead of giving him the friendly shake expected, he used it as a lever to raise his opponent from the ground, and swinging him round as he would a cat by the tail, threw him to a great distance. The other combatant, not admiring this preliminary process, took to his heels.

While in Edinburgh, Sam occasionally patronized Geordie Cranstoun, and took much pleasure in listening to his singing. He was nevertheless much displeased to find himself associated with him in the Print, remarking to the artist, that he did not choose to be classed with a beggar, and insisting that the figure of the little man should be extinguished. Although this demand was not complied with, the next time he called on the artist, Sam was in his usual good humour.

Sam was six feet ten inches high, four feet round the chest, extremely strong-built and muscular, but yet proportionable, unless his legs might be thought even too stout for the load they had to bear.

No. XXI.

MAJOR FISHER.

THIS gentleman, represented as giving the word of command, was an officer in the 55th regiment of foot, which was here in 1790. Both officers and men conducted themselves with great propriety while in Edinburgh.

* Gentleman's Magazine, vol. lxxii. p. 478.

No. XXII.

DR JOSEPH BLACK.

DR BLACK was born in France, on the banks of the Garonne, in 1728. His father, Mr John Black, was a native of Belfast, in Ireland, but his ancestors were originally from Scotland. Mr Black had settled in Bordeaux as a wine-merchant, where he married a daughter of Mr Robert Gordon of Hillhead, in Aberdeenshire, who also resided at Bordeaux, and was engaged in the same trade. At the age of twelve, young Black was sent to his relations in Belfast to be educated, and he accordingly attended the schools of that town. In 1746 he entered the University of Glasgow, where he was very early patronized by Mr Robert Dick, Professor of Natural Philosophy, and speedily became the intimate companion of his son, who, as well as his youthful friend, had already given a decided preference to physical knowledge. During the course of the same year in which he went to college, Dr Cullen commenced his illustrious career as lecturer on chemistry in the University of Glasgow, and his fame quickly spread through the city of Glasgow. His class, besides being filled with regular students, was attended by many gentlemen who had no idea of prosecuting professionally the study of medicine. Dr Cullen, in every situation which he held either in Glasgow or in Edinburgh, made it a point to cultivate an acquaintance with those who attended his lectures—uniformly treated them with respect, but from the natural openness and generosity of his temper, never kept them at a distance—was accessible at all times, and took cognizance of the progress of their studies. He became early acquainted with young Black, and, perceiving the bent of his genius, strongly impressed upon him the propriety of prosecuting with ardour the cultivation of that field of science upon which he had just entered. In a short time he was advanced to be Dr Cullen's assistant in the performance of experiments; and by the extraordinary neatness and address which he discovered in this department, he essentially contributed to increase the éclat of the Professor's lectures.

He repaired to Edinburgh to finish his medical studies, and in 1751 was enrolled as a student of medicine. Whilst there, he resided with his cousin-german, Mr Russell, Professor of Natural Philosophy in that University. The usefulness of this seminary as a medical school was then only beginning to be known, but the reputation of its teachers had already spread through various parts of the world. During three sessions he attended all the necessary classes, and took the degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1754. On this occasion it is customary in Edinburgh to print a thesis, in the Latin language, on some subject connected with medical science. Dr Black chose for his theme "The Acid arising from Food, and Magnesia Alba," in which was contained

his celebrated discovery of *fixed air, or carbonic acid gas*. We are informed by himself, that he was led to the examination of the absorbent earths, partly by the hope of discovering a new sort of lime and lime-water, which might possibly be a more powerful solvent of the stone than that commonly used. The attention of the public had been directed to this subject for some years. Sir Robert, as well as his brother Horace, afterwards Lord Walpole, were troubled with the stone. They imagined that they had received benefit from a medicine invented by a Mrs Stephens; and, through their interest principally, she received five thousand pounds sterling for revealing the secret. It was accordingly published in the *London Gazette* on the 19th June 1739. This had directed the attention of medical men to the employment of lime-water in cure of the stone. Upon the publication of the thesis, it immediately attracted the attention of chemical philosophers; and Dr Black is now universally acknowledged to be the founder of pneumatic chemistry, and to have opened an immense field for observation and experiment to the philosophical world, which before his time had never been explored or even thought of.

Dr Cullen removing to Edinburgh in 1756, Dr Black was appointed Professor of Anatomy and Lecturer on Chemistry; but not conceiving himself so well qualified for filling the anatomical chair, he obtained the concurrence of the University to accomplish an exchange with the Professor of Medicine. He brought to maturity his theory of *latent heat*, some time between 1759 and 1763; and he read, in April 1762, to a select society in Glasgow, the result of his experiments on the subject. Much about the same year he read the essay on latent heat before a society in Edinburgh, bearing the name of the Newtonian Society, instituted in 1759. The delicate state of his health was the cause of his never publishing an account of his doctrine, as the slightest exertion, if continued for any length of time, always brought on a spitting of blood; and the excitement which a publication of this description would necessarily have produced, and the controversy and criticism that would have followed, was much more than his feeble frame could have borne.

In 1764, it was fortunate both for Dr Black and science, that Mr James Watt, so justly celebrated for his improvements of the steam-engine, became his pupil, he being at that time employed in repairing the model of a steam-engine for the Natural Philosophy class in the University.

In the year 1766, Dr Cullen, the Professor of Chemistry in the University of Edinburgh, was appointed Professor of Medicine; and the chemical chair in the University thus becoming vacant, Dr Black was immediately appointed to it, and he continued one of the chief ornaments of the University for a space of about thirty years.

Dr Black lived on very friendly terms with most of the many literary characters then resident in the northern metropolis. Amongst these we may mention his relative, Dr Adam Ferguson, Mr Home, author of the tragedy of *Douglas*, Dr Alexander Carlyle, Sir George Clerk of Pennycuick, his brother Mr Clerk of Eldin, Dr Roebuck, and Dr Hutton.

He felt the approaches of old age somewhat early, and was under the necessity of employing an assistant when only about sixty years of age. He restricted himself to a moderate, or rather abstemious diet, and regulated his food and exercise by the measure of his strength. He entertained many apprehensions of a long-continued sick-bed, which he was anxious to avoid, not from any selfish motive, but that it might not occasion trouble or distress to his friends. This anticipated evil was averted by the suddenness of his departure, which took place on the 26th November 1799, while sitting at table with his usual fare before him, viz., some bread, a few prunes, and a measured quantity of milk, diluted with water, with the cup in his hands containing the liquid, resting on his knees. In this posture he was found by the servant who attended him. He was in the 71st year of his age.

Dr Black, who had never been married, left more money than any one thought he could have acquired in the course of his career. It was disposed of by his will in a manner highly characteristic: Being divided into ten thousand shares, it was parcelled out to a numerous list of individuals, in shares, or fractions of shares, according to the degree in which he thought they were proper objects of his care or solicitude. He was succeeded, as Professor of Chemistry, by Dr Hope.

"The aspect of Dr Black," says Chalmers,* "was comely and interesting. His countenance exhibited that pleasing expression of inward satisfaction, which, by giving ease to the beholder, never fails to please. His manner was unaffected and graceful; he was affable, and readily entered into conversation, whether pious or trivial; he was a stranger to none of the elegant accomplishments of life; he had a fine musical ear, with a voice which could obey it in the most perfect manner; for he sung, and performed on the flute, with great taste and feeling, and would sing a plain air at sight, which many instrumental performers cannot do. Without having studied drawing, he had acquired a considerable power of expressing with his pencil, and seemed in this respect to have the talents of a historical painter. Figure, indeed, of every kind attracted his attention—even a retort, or a crucible, was to his eye an example of beauty or deformity. He had the strongest claim to the appellation of a man of propriety or correctness."

The house where Dr Black resided is now occupied by the Female Department of the Industrious Blind, in Nicolson Street.

No. XXIII.

DR JOSEPH BLACK, LECTURING.

THE notice illustrative of the preceding portrait of Dr Black renders any description of this Print unnecessary, except to add that his "Lectures on the Elements of Chemistry, delivered in the University of Edinburgh," were published in 2 vols. 4to, by Professor Robison, in 1803.

* Biographical Dictionary, vol. v. p. 311. London, 1812, 8vo.

No. XXIV.

DR JAMES HUTTON.

DR HUTTON was an ingenious philosopher, remarkable for the unaffected simplicity of his manner, and much esteemed by the society in which he moved. In his dress he very much resembled a Quaker, with the exception that he wore a cocked hat. He was born in the city of Edinburgh, on the 3d June 1726, and was the son of a merchant there, who died in the infancy of his son. He was educated at the High School; and, after going through the regular course at that seminary, he entered the University of Edinburgh in 1740. The original intention of his friends was, that he should follow the profession of a Writer to the Signet; and, with this view, he for some time pursued the course of study enjoined by the regulations of that Society, and accordingly attended the Humanity (or Latin) Class for two sessions. It would appear, however, that the early bent of his genius was directed towards chemistry; for, instead of prosecuting the study of the law, he was more frequently found amusing the clerks and apprentices in the office in which he had been placed, with chemical experiments. His master, therefore, with much kindness, advised him to select some other avocation more suited to his turn of mind; he, accordingly, fixed on medicine, and returned to the University. Here, during three sessions, he attended the requisite classes, but did not graduate. He repaired to Paris, and spent two years in that city. On his way home he passed through Leyden, and there took the degree of Doctor of Medicine, in the month of September 1749.

Meanwhile he had formed, in London, an intimate acquaintance with Mr John Davie. They entered into a copartnership, and engaged in the manufacture of sal-ammoniac from coal-soot, which was carried on in Edinburgh for many years with considerable success. From his peculiar habits he had little chance of getting into practice as a doctor of medicine, and he appears to have relinquished the idea very early. He determined to betake himself to agriculture: for this purpose he resided for some time with a farmer in the county of Norfolk; and, in the year 1754, bringing a plough and a ploughman from England, he took into his own hands a small property which he possessed in Berwickshire. Having brought his farm into good order, and not feeling the same enthusiasm for agriculture which he had previously entertained, he removed to Edinburgh about the year 1768, and devoted himself almost exclusively to scientific pursuits.

In 1777, Dr Hutton's first book, entitled, "Considerations on the Nature, Quality, and Distinctions of Coal and Culm," was given to the world. He next published an outline of his "Theory of the Earth," in the first volume of the "Transactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh." Dr Hutton had, during a

long course of years, accumulated a variety of facts in support of his theory,—having undertaken journeys not only through Scotland, but also through England and Wales, and different parts of the continent of Europe. In the same volume he published another paper, entitled, “A Theory of Rain.” This theory met with a vigorous opposition from M. de Luc, and became a subject of controversy, which was conducted with much warmth.

In 1792 he published “Dissertations on different subjects in Natural Philosophy,” in which his theory for explaining the phenomena of the material world seems to coincide very closely with that of Boscovich, though there is no reason to suppose that the former was suggested by the latter.

Dr Hutton next turned his attention to the study of metaphysics, the result of which he gave to the public in a voluminous work, entitled, “An Investigation of the Principles of Knowledge, and of the Progress of Reason from Sense to Science and Philosophy.” 3 vols. 4to. Edinburgh, 1794. While engaged in its publication he was seized with a dangerous illness, from which he never entirely recovered. In 1794 appeared his “Dissertation upon the Philosophy of Light, Heat, and Fire,” 8vo. In 1796, his “Theory of the Earth” was republished in 2 vols., with large additions, and a new Mineralogical system. Many of his opinions were ably combated by Kirwan and others.

Professor Playfair, who had adopted the leading doctrines of the Doctor's theory, published, in 1802, a work entitled, “Illustrations of the Huttonian Theory of the Earth.” A short time before his death the Doctor wrote a work on Agriculture, which was intended to form 4 vols. 8vo. The MS. was recently in existence.

Dr Hutton's health had begun to decline in 1792; and, as before mentioned, he was seized with a severe illness during the summer of 1793, which, after some intervals of convalescence, terminated at last in his death, upon the 26th March 1797, having written a good deal in the course of the same day. He died, like his friend Dr Black, a bachelor.

No. XXV.

PHILOSOPHERS.

THIS Print represents DR BLACK and DR HUTTON, who were for a long series of years most intimate and attached friends, conversing together. Their studies and pursuits were in many respects intimately connected, and upon different subjects of philosophical speculation they had frequently opposite opinions, but this never interrupted the harmony of their personal friendship. They were remarkable for their simplicity of character, and almost total ignorance of what was daily passing around them in the world. An amusing illustration of this will be found in the following anecdote:—

Several highly respectable literary gentlemen proposed to hold a convivial meeting once-a-week, and deputed two of their number, Doctors Black and Hutton, to look out for a suitable house of entertainment to meet in. The two accordingly sallied out for this purpose, and seeing on the South Bridge a sign with the words, "Stewart, vintner, down stairs," they immediately went into the house and demanded a sight of their best room, which was accordingly shown to them, and which pleased them much. Without further inquiry, the meetings were fixed by them to be held in this house; and the club assembled there during the greater part of the winter, till one evening Dr Hutton, being rather late, was surprised, when going in, to see a whole bevy of well-dressed but somewhat brazen-faced young ladies brush past him, and take refuge in an adjoining apartment. He then, for the first time, began to think that all was not right, and communicated his suspicions to the rest of the company. Next morning the notable discovery was made, that our amiable philosophers had introduced their friends to one of the most noted houses of bad fame in the city!!

These attached friends agreed in their opposition to the usual vulgar prejudices, and frequently discoursed together upon the absurdity of many generally received opinions, especially in regard to diet. On one occasion they had a disquisition upon the inconsistency of abstaining from feeding on the testaceous creatures of the land, while those of the sea were considered as delicacies. Snails, for instance—why not use them as articles of food? They were well known to be nutritious and wholesome—even sanative in some cases. The epicuræ, in olden time, esteemed as a most delicious treat the snails fed in the marble-quarries of Lucca. The Italians still hold them in esteem. The two philosophers, perfectly satisfied that their countrymen were acting most absurdly in not making snails an ordinary article of food, resolved themselves to set an example; and, accordingly, having procured a number, caused them to be stewed for dinner. No guests were invited to the banquet. The snails were in due season served up; but, alas! great is the difference between theory and practice—so far from exciting the appetite, the smoking dish acted in a diametrically opposite manner, and neither party felt much inclination to partake of its contents; nevertheless, if they looked on the snails with disgust, they retained their awe for each other; so that each, conceiving the symptoms of internal revolt peculiar to himself, began with infinite exertion to swallow, in very small quantities, the mess which he internally loathed. Dr Black at length broke the ice, but in a delicate manner, as if to sound the opinion of his messmate:—"Doctor," he said, in his precise and quiet manner, "Doctor, do you not think that they taste a little—a very little queer?" "—queer! —queer, indeed!—tak them awa', tak them awa'!" vociferated Dr Hutton, starting up from table, and giving full vent to his feelings of abhorrence.

No. XXVI.

DR JOHN BROWN,

AUTHOR OF "THE BRUNONIAN SYSTEM OF MEDICINE,"

Is represented with the ensign of the Roman Eagle Lodge, which used to be carried at public processions before the Master, a situation which he long held.

The miniature scene in the background describes what had frequently happened, namely, the Doctor at a bowl of punch, with Mr Little of Libberton, Mr John Lamont, surgeon, and Lord Bellenden, heir to his Grace the Duke of Roxburghe, playing on the fiddle—an accomplishment in which he excelled—for the entertainment of the company. His Lordship, who was remarkable for his free, generous, and hospitable disposition, in 1787 married Miss Sarah Cumming of Jamaica, a lady paternally of Scottish, but maternally of African descent. The other two gentlemen in conversation at the back of this convivial group, are Dr William Cullen and Dr Alexander Hamilton, Professor of Midwifery; the gentleman in white clothes, to the left, is Dr James Graham, already described in No. XI.

Dr John Brown was born in the parish of Buncle, in the county of Berwick, of parents more respectable for decency of character than dignity of rank. Discovering early marks of uncommon talents, his parents were induced, after having fruitlessly bound him as an apprentice to a weaver, to change his destination. He was accordingly sent to the grammar-school of Dunse, where, under Mr Cruickshanks, an able teacher, he studied with great ardour and success. His application, indeed, was so intense, that he was seldom without a book in his hand. It is said that Brown submitted, in his youth, to be a reaper of corn, to procure for himself the means of improvement. With the price of such labour he put himself to school, where his abilities attracted the attention of his master, and procured him the place of assistant. His revolt from the loom, according to this account, must have been attended with highly honourable circumstances.

The years of Brown's grammar education appear to have been, in no common degree, well-spent and happy; and he continued at school until he had nearly attained the age of twenty. In the summer of 1757, his reputation as a scholar procured him the appointment of tutor to a family of some distinction in the neighbourhood of Dunse, where, however, he did not long continue an inmate. Upon relinquishing this situation he repaired to the University of Edinburgh, where, after going through the usual course of philosophy, he entered upon his theological studies: he attended the lectures of the professors, diligently applied to the study of the authors recommended by them, and proceeded so far as to deli-





ver in the public hall the usual academical exercise prescribed prior to ordination as a clergyman of the Scottish Establishment. At this point he stopped, and relinquished the profession of divinity altogether: the sequel will sufficiently explain his motives for this change. Its immediate consequence was his retreat from Edinburgh to Dunse. Here he engaged himself as usher to the school which he had lately quitted; and in this capacity he officiated a whole year, in the course of which one of the classes in the High School at Edinburgh becoming vacant, Brown appeared as a candidate, but proved unsuccessful.

When Brown renounced divinity, he turned his thoughts to the study of medicine; and in order to defray the necessary expense attendant upon this new pursuit, he became what in college parlance is termed a "grinder," or preparer of Latin translations of the inaugural dissertations which medical students are bound to publish before taking their degree as Doctors in Medicine. His attention was first directed to this employment by accident. Application being made to one of his friends to procure a person sufficiently qualified to turn an essay of this kind into tolerable Latin, Brown was recommended, and performed the task in a manner that exceeded the expectations both of the friend and the candidate. When it was observed how much he had excelled the ordinary style of such compositions, he said he had now discovered his strength, and was ambitious of riding in his own carriage as a physician. This occurred towards the close of 1759.

Brown next turned his attention to the establishment of a boarding-house for students, a resource which would enable him to maintain a family. His reputation for various attainments was, he thought, likely to draw round him a number sufficient to fill a large house. With this prospect he married in 1765 Miss Euphemia Lamont, daughter of Mr John Lamont, merchant in Edinburgh, by whom he had twelve children. His success answered his expectations, and his house was soon filled with respectable boarders; but he lived too splendidly for his income; and it is said that he managed so ill, that in two or three years he became bankrupt. Towards the end of 1770, he was miserably reduced in circumstances, but he nevertheless continued to maintain his original independence of character. He seemed to be happy in his family; and, as far as could be observed, acquitted himself affectionately both as a husband and a parent. He still attended the medical classes, which, according to his own account, he had done for ten or eleven years.

From the celebrated Cullen he early received the most flattering marks of attention. This speculatist, like Boerhaave, and other men of genius in the same station, was accustomed to watch the fluctuating body of students with a vigilant eye, and to seek the acquaintance of the most promising. Brown's intimate and classical knowledge of the Latin language served him as a peculiar recommendation; and his circumstances might induce Cullen to believe that he could render this talent permanently useful to himself. Taking, therefore, its possessor under his immediate patronage, he gave him employment as a private instructor in his own family, and spared no pains in

recommending him to others. A close intimacy ensued. The favoured pupil was at length permitted to give an evening lecture, in which he repeated, and sometimes illustrated, the morning lecture of the professor, for which purpose he was entrusted with Cullen's own notes. This friendship, however, was not of permanent duration.

When the theoretical chair of medicine became vacant, Brown gave in his name as a candidate. On a former occasion, of a nature somewhat similar, he had disdained to avail himself of recommendations, which he might have obtained with ease; and, though his abilities were far superior to those of the other candidates, private interest then prevailed over the more just pretensions of merit. Such was his simplicity that he conceived nothing beyond pre-eminent qualifications necessary to success. The Magistrates and Council of Edinburgh were the patrons of this professorship, and they are reported, deridingly, to have inquired who this unknown and unfriended candidate was, and Cullen, on being shown the name, is said to have exclaimed, "Why, sure this can never be our Jock!"

Estranged from Dr Cullen, Brown gradually became his greatest enemy, and shortly afterwards found out the New Theory, which gave occasion to his publishing the "*Elementa Medicinæ*," in the preface to which work he gives an account of the accident that led to this discovery. The approbation his work met with among his friends, encouraged him to give lectures upon his system. Though these lectures were not very numerously attended by the students, owing to their dependence upon the professors, he had many adherents, to whom the sobriquet of "Brunonians" was attached.* It is unnecessary to enter upon all the angry disputes that subsequently arose. Suffice it to say that the enmity of his medical opponents, his own violence, and the pecuniary embarrassments he laboured under, ultimately compelled him to leave Edinburgh for London in 1786. During his residence in Edinburgh, Dr Brown was elected President of the Medical Society in 1776, and again in 1780.

Observing that the students of medicine frequently sought initiation into the mysteries of Freemasonry, our author thought their youthful curiosity afforded him a chance of proselytes. In 1784 he instituted a meeting of that fraternity, and entitled it the "Lodge of the Roman Eagle." The business was conducted in the Latin language, which he spoke with uncommon fluency. "I was much diverted," observes Dr Macdonald, "by his ingenuity in turning into Latin all the terms used in Masonry."

In lecturing, Dr Brown had too frequently recourse to stimulants. He usually had a bottle of spirits—whisky generally—on one side, and a phial of laudanum on the other. Whenever he found himself languid preparatory to commencing, he would take forty or fifty drops of laudanum in a glass of whisky, repeating the quantity for four or five times during the course of the lecture. By these

* It may be mentioned as a curious fact, that a "perlegi" was ordered to be put at the end of each medical Thesis, for the purpose of seeing that no part of the Brunonian system was introduced by the candidates for a degree.



*Joannes Bruno N. L.
Hercule! Opium minime sedat.*

means he soon waxed warm, and by degrees his imagination became dreadfully excited. Before leaving Edinburgh, he was so miserably reduced in his circumstances as to be committed to prison for debt, where his pupils attended his lectures. His liberation from jail was principally attributable to the exertions of the eccentric but amiable Lord Gardenstone.

Shortly after his arrival in London, the peculiarity of his appearance as he moved along—a short, square figure—with an air of dignity, in a black suit, which made the scarlet of his cheeks and nose the more resplendent—attracted the notice of certain "*Chevaliers d'Industrie*," on the look-out for spoil in the street. They addressed him in the dialect of his country: his heart, heavy as it must have been from the precariousness of his situation and distance from his native land, expanded to these agreeable sounds. A conversation ensued, and the parties by common consent adjourned to a tavern. Here the stranger was kindly welcomed to town, and, after the glass had circulated for a time, something was proposed by way of amusement—a game at cards, or whatever the Doctor might prefer. The Doctor had been too civilly treated to demur; but his purse was scantily furnished, and it was necessary to quit his new friends in search of a supply. Fortunately he applied to Mr Murray the bookseller, who speedily enlightened him as to the quality of his companions.

A London sharper, of another denomination, afterwards tried to take advantage of the Doctor. This was an ingenious speculator in quack medicines. He thought a composition of the most powerful stimulants might have a run, under the title of "Dr Brown's Exciting Pill;" and, for the privilege of the name, offered him a sum in hand, by no means contemptible; as well as a share of the contemplated profits. Poor Brown, needy as he was, to his honour indignantly rejected the proposal.

By his sojourn in London, Brown did not improve his circumstances: he persisted in his old irregularities, projecting at the same time great designs, and entertaining sanguine expectations of success; but, on the 7th of October 1788, when he was about fifty-two years of age, he was seized with a fit of apoplexy, and died in the course of the night.

No. XXVII.

DR BROWN, IN HIS STUDY,

Writing, we have little doubt, his "*Elements of Medicine*," a new edition of which, revised and corrected by Dr Beddoes, was printed in two vols. 8vo, in 1780.

No. XXVIII.

SIR JAMES HUNTER BLAIR, BART.,

LATE LORD PROVOST OF EDINBURGH,

Is here represented with his robes on, and holding a plan of the South Bridge in his hand. From Kay's own authority we learn, that "he etched this Print by express commission, for which he received a guinea for the first impression, and at the rate of half-a-guinea for another dozen."

Sir James was the second son of Mr John Hunter, merchant in Ayr, and was born in that town on the 21st day of February 1741. His father acquired considerable property in land and money, and left his children, who were still young at his death, in easy circumstances. In the year 1756, Sir James was placed as an apprentice in the house of the brothers Coutts, bankers in Edinburgh. It was at this time that his friendship commenced with Sir William Forbes, who was then a fellow-clerk in the Bank. Sir William, in a letter, written after the death of Sir James, observes, "our friendship terminated only with his life, after an intimacy which few brothers can boast of, during thirty-one years, in which long period we never had a difference, nor a separation of interest."

After the death of Mr John Coutts, the principal partner of the house, Sir William and Mr Hunter were admitted to a share of the business in 1763,* and gradually rose to the head of the copartnery.

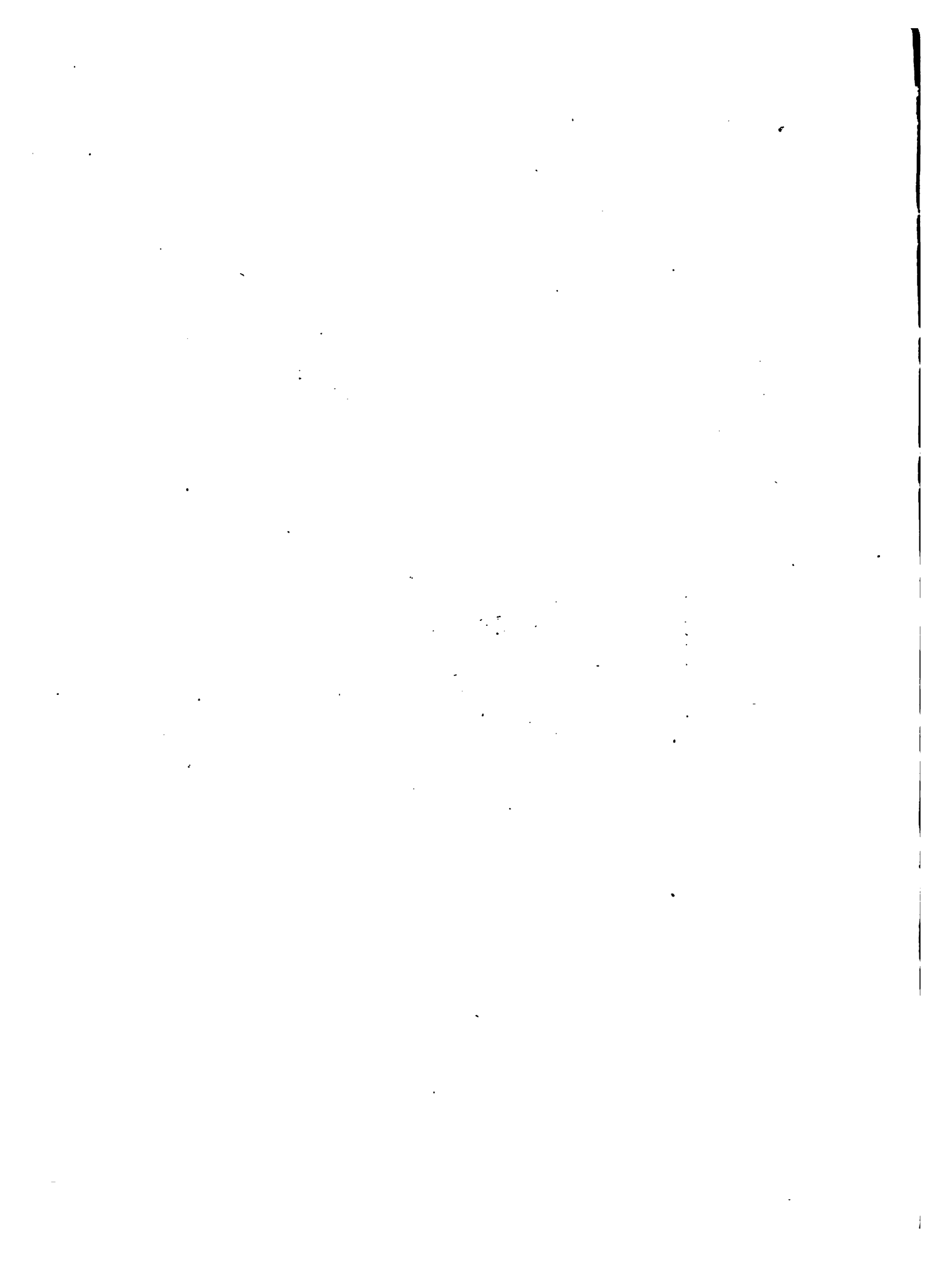
In December 1770, he married Jane, eldest daughter of John Blair, Esq. of Dunskey, in the county of Wigton. This lady's father, at his death, left no fewer than six sons, four of whom were alive at the time of their sister's marriage, but all having died, she succeeded, in 1777, to the family estate. Sir James on this occasion assumed the name of Blair, and was afterwards, in the year 1786, created a Baronet of Great Britain.

On the estate which had thus unexpectedly devolved to him, he commenced a plan of most extensive and judicious improvements. He nearly rebuilt the town of Portpatrick; he repaired and greatly improved the harbour; established packet-boats of a larger size on the much-frequented passage to Donaghadee in Ireland; and lastly, while the farmers in that part of Scotland were not very well acquainted with the most approved modes of farming, he set before them a successful example of the best modes of agriculture, the greatest service, perhaps, which can be performed by a private man to his country.

In September 1781, he was called, without any solicitation on his part, to represent the city of Edinburgh in Parliament; and at the general election in summer 1784, he received the same honour; but before the end of the first

* About this time Sir James first became a member of the Town-Council.





Session he resigned his seat, to the surprise of many, in favour of Sir Adam Fergusson, Bart., as he found his professional avocations required an attendance quite incompatible with his Parliamentary duties.

At Michaelmas 1784, in compliance with the urgent request of the Town-Council, he was elected Lord Provost of Edinburgh; and he speedily evinced his public spirit by setting on foot various projects for the improvement of the city, among the not least important of which was the rebuilding the College. The access to Edinburgh from the south, on account of the narrowness and steepness of the lanes, was not only very incommodious but even hazardous; and, accordingly, it had been proposed to open a communication between the High Street and the southern parts of the city and suburbs by means of a bridge over the Cowgate. This scheme, although its great importance was abundantly obvious, appeared so expensive, and was attended with so many other difficulties, that every previous attempt had proved unsuccessful, and it required all the address and influence of the Lord Provost to carry it into execution.

In order to defray the great expense, Sir James devised means which, to men of less discernment or knowledge in business, appeared very inadequate to the purpose. His scheme was this: The property which lay in the line of the intended communication, and to a considerable distance on each side of that line, was to be purchased at its real value at the time; and after the communication was opened, such parts of the ground thus purchased as were not to be left vacant, were to be disposed of for the purpose of erecting buildings, according to a plan prepared for the purpose. Sir James conceived that the sale of these areas, in consequence of the great improvement of their situation, would raise money sufficient, not only to pay for the first purchase of the property, but also to defray the expense of building the bridge, and whatever else was necessary for completing the communication. But lest there should be any deficiency, and in order to afford security for borrowing the money which might be requisite, the trustees for carrying on the work were to be empowered to levy a sum not exceeding 10 per cent of the valued rents of the houses in Edinburgh and the environs; and to remove all cause of complaint, he proposed that if any of the owners of the property to be purchased should not agree with the trustees, the price of their property should be fixed by the verdict of a jury, consisting of fifteen persons, to be chosen by lot out of forty-five proprietors of houses or lands in the city or county, named by the Sheriff in each particular case.

These proposals were published in November 1784, and met with the same reception which has often attended schemes of still greater importance, and more extensive utility. They were censured and vigorously opposed. A man of less ardour and public spirit would have yielded to the discouragements which Sir James experienced on this occasion. Fortunately he was of such a temper that they served only to stimulate his exertions, without rendering him less prudent in his measures. His perseverance surmounted every opposition. An Act of Parliament was obtained for carrying into execution not only the plan which has been mentioned, but likewise several others, of great importance to the city:

and on the 1st day of August 1785, the work was begun by laying the foundation-stone of the bridge which now connects, by an easy and spacious communication, the suburbs on the south with the rest of the city.

The foundation of the new bridge was laid with great solemnity by the Right Hon. Lord Haddo, Grand-Master Mason of Scotland, in presence of the Lord Provost and Magistrates, a number of the nobility and gentry, and the master, officers, and brethren of all the Lodges of Freemasons in the city and neighbourhood.

In the foundation-stone were cut five holes, wherein the Substitute Grand-Master put some coins of his Majesty George III., and covered them with a plate, on which was engraven an inscription in Latin, the translation of which is as follows :—

“ By the blessing of Almighty God, in the reign of George III., the father
 “ of his country, the Right Hon. George Lord Haddo, Grand-Master of the
 “ most ancient fraternity of Freemasons in Scotland, amidst the acclamations of a
 “ Grand Assembly of the Brethren, and of a vast concourse of people, laid the
 “ first stone of this bridge, intended to form a convenient communication between
 “ the city of Edinburgh and its suburbs, and an access not unworthy of such a
 “ city.

“ This work, so useful to the inhabitants, so pleasing and convenient to
 “ strangers, so ornamental to the city, so creditable to the country, so long and
 “ much wanted and wished for, was at last begun with the sanction of the
 “ King and Parliament of Great Britain, and with universal approbation, in the
 “ Provostship of James Hunter Blair, the author and indefatigable promoter of
 “ the undertaking, August the first, in the year of our Lord 1785, and of the
 “ era of Masonry 5785, which may God prosper.”

Sir James lived only to see the commencement of the great works which he had projected. In spring 1787, he went to Harrowgate for the recovery of his health, but without the appearance of any alarming complaint. The waters had not the success which he expected. In the month of June his indisposition was much increased, and terminated in a fever. He died on the 1st day of July 1787, in the 47th year of his age. His remains were conveyed to Edinburgh, and deposited in the Greyfriars' churchyard.

In private life, Sir James was affable and cheerful, warmly attached to his friends, and anxious for their success. As a magistrate, he was upright, liberal, and disinterested. His talents were of the highest order—to an unwearied application, he united great knowledge of the world, sagacity in business, and soundness of understanding; and he died unusually respected.

Hunter Square and Blair Street, where the King's Printing-Office is situated, were named after Sir James, whose estate and titles are inherited by the respected Sir David Hunter Blair, Bart., who also holds the appointment of Printer to his Majesty.





The preserver of the Church from Fanaticism.

No. XXIX.

ALEXANDER CARLYLE, D.D., INVERESK.

THIS Print gives a very striking likeness of one of the chief leaders of the Court party in our Church judicatures. From his repeated exertions in favour of the law of patronage, and frequently styling the popular party "Fanatics," Kay has given him the curious title at the bottom of the Print.

Dr Carlyle (born January 26, 1722, died August 25, 1805,) is memorable as a member—though an inactive one—of the brilliant fraternity of literary men who attracted attention in Scotland during the latter half of the eighteenth century. His father was the minister of Prestonpans. He received his education at the Universities of Glasgow, Edinburgh, and Leyden. While he attended these schools of learning, his elegant and manly accomplishments gained him admission into the most polished circles, at the same time that the superiority of his understanding, and the refinement of his taste, introduced him to the particular notice of men of science and literature. At the breaking out of the insurrection of 1745, being only twenty-three years of age, he thought proper to enroll himself in a body of volunteers, which was raised at Edinburgh to defend the city. This corps was dissolved on the approach of the Highland army, when he retired to his father's house at Prestonpans, where the tide of war soon followed him. Sir John Cope having pitched his camp in the immediate neighbourhood of Prestonpans, the Highlanders attacked him early on the morning of the 21st of September, and soon gained a decisive victory; Carlyle was awoken by an account that the armies were engaged, when, in order to have a view of the action, he hurried to the top of the village-steeple, where he arrived only in time to see the regular soldiers flying in all directions to escape the broadswords of the Highlanders.

Having gone through the usual exercises prescribed by the Church of Scotland, he was presented, in 1748, to the living of Inveresk, near Edinburgh. In this situation he remained for the long period of fifty-seven years. His talents as a preacher were of the highest order, and contributed much to introduce into the Scottish pulpit an elegance of manner and delicacy of taste, to which this part of the United Kingdom had been formerly a stranger, but of which it has since afforded some brilliant examples. In the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, Dr Carlyle acted on the *moderate* side, and, next to Dr Robertson, was one of the most instrumental members of that party in reducing the government of the Church to the tranquillity which it experienced almost down to our own time. It was owing chiefly to his active exertions, that the clergy of the Church of Scotland, in consideration of their moderate incomes, and of their living in official houses, were exempted from the severe pressure of the house

and window tax. With this object in view he spent some time in London, and was introduced at Court, where the elegance of his manners, and the dignity of his appearance, are said to have excited both surprise and admiration. He succeeded in his efforts, though no clause to that purpose was introduced into any act of Parliament. The ministers were charged annually with the duty, but the collectors received private instructions that no steps should be taken to enforce payment.

Public spirit was a conspicuous part of the character of the Doctor. The love of his country seemed to be the most active principle of his heart, and the direction in which it was guided at a period which seriously menaced the good order of society, was productive of incalculable benefit among those over whom his influence extended. He was so fortunate in his early days as to form an acquaintance with all those celebrated men whose names have added splendour to the literary history of the eighteenth century. Smollett, in his "Expedition of Humphry Clinker," a work in which fact and fiction are curiously blended, mentions that he owed to Dr Carlyle his introduction to the literary circles of Edinburgh. After mentioning a list of celebrated names, he adds—"These acquaintances I owe to the friendship of Dr Carlyle, who wants nothing but inclination to figure with the rest upon paper."

Dr Carlyle was a particular friend of Mr Home, the author of *Douglas*, and that tragedy, if we are not misinformed, was, previous to its being represented, submitted to his revision. It is even stated, although there appears no evidence of the truth of the assertion, that Dr Carlyle, at a private rehearsal in Mrs Ward's lodgings in the Canongate, acted the part of *Old Norval*, Dr Robertson performing *Lord Randolph*—David Hume, *Glenalvon*, and Dr Blair!! *Anna**—*Lady Randolph* being enacted by the author. He exerted, as may be supposed, his utmost efforts to oppose that violent opposition which was raised against Mr Home by the puritanical spirit, which, though by that time somewhat mitigated, was still far from being extinguished in this country; † and successfully withstood a prosecution before the Church courts for attending the performance of the tragedy of *Douglas*.

Dr Carlyle rendered an essential service to literature, in the recovery of Collins' long lost "Ode on the Superstitions of the Highlands." The author, on his death-bed, had mentioned it to Dr Johnson as the best of his poems, but it was not in his possession, and no search had been able to discover a copy. At last, Dr Carlyle found it accidentally among his papers, and presented it to the

* See Edinburgh Evening Post, January 31, 1829.

† Upon occasion of the representation of the tragedy, a variety of squibs, both for and against, issued from the press. In one of them, entitled, "The First Night's Audience, an excellent new ballad, to the tune of 'A Cobbler there was,'" 4to, Pp. 4., occurs the following stanza, applicable to Dr Carlyle:—

"Hid close in the green-room some clergymen lay,
Good actors themselves too—their whole life a play;
C—lyle with a cudgel and genius rare,
With aspect as stern as a Hessian hussar.
Derry down," &c.





Key 1611 1789

Royal Society of Edinburgh, in the first volume of whose Transactions it was published; and by the public in general, as well as by the author himself, it has always been numbered among the finest productions of the poet.

It is much to be regretted that Dr Carlyle favoured the world with so little from his own pen, having published scarcely any thing except the Report of the Parish of Inveresk, in Sir John Sinclair's Statistical Account, and some detached pamphlets and sermons. To his pen has been justly attributed "An Ironical Argument, to prove that the tragedy of *Douglas* ought to be publicly burnt by the hands of the hangman."—Edinburgh, 1757, 8vo, pp. 24.* It is understood that Dr Carlyle left behind him, in manuscript, a very curious Memoir of his time, which, though long delayed, we have now reason to believe will soon in part be given to the world.

With the following description of the personal appearance of Dr Carlyle, when advanced in years, the proprietor of this work has been favoured by a gentleman to whom the literature of his country owes much:

"He was very tall, and held his head erect like a military man—his face had been very handsome—long venerable gray hair—he was an old man when I met him on a morning visit at the Duke of Buccleuch's at Dalkeith."

No. XXX.

THE MODERN HERCULES.

THIS is a humorous piece of satire upon Dr Carlyle and the opposition he has uniformly met with from the leading men of the popular party. The uppermost head on the hydra is that of Professor Dalzel of the University of Edinburgh—the one below it that of the Rev. Dr John Erskine of Carnock, minister of Old Greyfriars' Church, intended for the bar by his father, but his own inclination was for the pulpit—the undermost head that of the much-esteemed Rev. Dr Andrew Hunter of the Tron-Kirk—and the figure with the hand up, cautioning Dr Carlyle, that of the Hon. Henry Erskine, advocate, who was generally employed as counsel on the side of the popular party. The other three were intended by Kay, according to his MS., for the Rev. Colin Campbell of Renfrew, the Rev. Mr Burns of Forgan, and the Rev. Dr Balfour of Glasgow.

* Dr Carlyle is said to have written the prologue to *Herminius and Espasia*, a tragedy acted at Edinburgh, 1754, and printed that same year in 8vo.

No. XXXI.

ADAM RITCHIE.

THIS old man was by occupation a Cowfeeder; he resided at Fountain Bridge, near the Westport of Edinburgh. He was born in the year 1683, and died in 1789, at the age of 106 years and two months. He was in perfect good health in 1786, three years before his death, when he sat for this picture, and gave an account of himself as follows, viz. :—

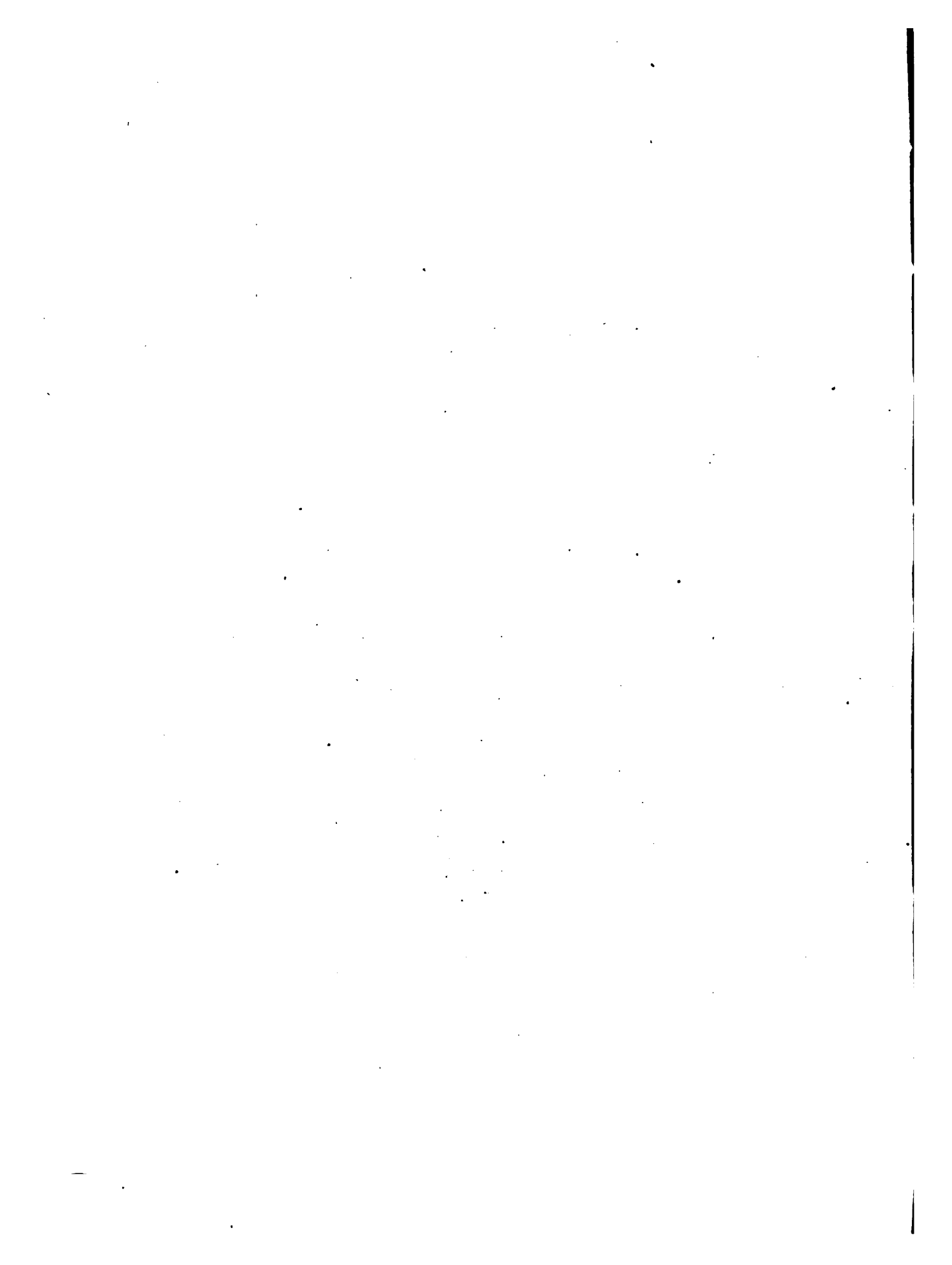
“That he had lived very fast, and accustomed himself much to hard-drinking in the early period of his life, and that this regimen agreed so well with his constitution that he grew very corpulent—so much so, that he could not bend himself so as to buckle his own shoes; and in order to get rid of that incumbrance, he was afterwards under the necessity of living more sparingly, which, in the course of a short time, reduced his person down to its original size. He was under arms during the Rebellion in 1715, and fought on the side of the House of Hanover, not from choice (as he said) but necessity, he having been forced into the ranks to supply the place of his master's son. He had a very warm attachment to the House of Stuart, and would have preferred following the Prince. That when he was about eighty years of age, he, as well as his wife, became so very infirm, that they were confined for several years constantly in bed; and latterly, he had the misfortune to lose his wife by the hand of death, on which occasion he was resolved, if possible, to attend her remains to the place of interment. He, consequently, collected all the strength he could muster, and succeeded so far in carrying his resolution into effect as to be able to follow the funeral on horseback. After this successful attempt, he found his health daily increasing; and in the course of a short period he was so much recovered as to be able once more to go about his usual employment. He in fact got so very stout, that he imagined his youth returned as well as his health. As a proof of this, he had the fortitude to ask a young woman of eighteen years of age in marriage, who actually would have accepted of him as her husband, had not her mother and other interested relations dissuaded her from the match. After this he courted another, somewhat older, who gave her consent; but our bridegroom unfortunately happening to discover her one day in a state of intoxication, broke off the match himself, resolved he never would ask another. Yet he afterwards asked his own servant, who then was with him, and who was very careful and kind to him; but she never would consent to marry him.”

He also stated that he never had any disease in his life, not even so much as headach or toothach. He had all his teeth fresh and complete, and made it



ADAM RITCHIE BORN 1683 DIED 1789
DRAWN FROM THE LIFE

KAY. scul. 1766







GRAY BYE SOLDIER

his boast that he could crack a nut with the youngest and stoutest person in the parish. He still took a hearty glass: as a proof of this, he drank an equal share of eight bottles of strong ale one evening with his limner and a friend. He at that period had a brother in life, only two years younger than himself, whose wife was then bearing children.

One of his sons happening to be present, in the course of conversation asked the company "What age they supposed him to be?" From his juvenile appearance and ruddy complexion, they guessed him at thirty-four, and were not a little astonished when he informed them that he was thirty years older!

No. XXXII.

ANGELO TREMAMONDO, ESQ.,

RIDING-MASTER,

As his almost unpronounceable name indicates, was a native of Italy. He came to Edinburgh about the year 1768, and was the first public teacher of riding in Scotland, having been appointed "Master of the Royal Riding Menage," for which he had a salary from Government. The people of Scotland are proverbial for a hatred to long names; so in their hands Angelo dwindled down to plain "*Ainslie*," and Tremamondo* was unceremoniously discarded. "*Ainslie*" lived in Nicolson Square, and was reputed to be wealthy. Having accidentally got a small piece of steel into one of his eyes, nearly all the physicians in Edinburgh were consulted, but without effect. At last Tremamondo was directed to Miller, the famous oculist, who succeeded in restoring him to his sight; but, unfortunately for the Italian, he succeeded also in becoming his son-in-law very soon after. The Doctor, perhaps, loved Miss Tremamondo well enough, but it afterwards appeared he had likewise "cast an eye" on her papa's purse; and, thinking that the old fellow did not "tell out" fast enough, a law-suit was the unhappy consequence. Like all other law-suits, where there is any thing like a fat goose to be plucked, it was carried on for a length of time with various success. Kay's MS. mentions that when Tremamondo received the first summons from his friend of the lancet, he was transported into a regular tornado of passion. He tore down a picture of his daughter which hung in the parlour, and, dashing it in pieces, threw it into the fire. While the old Italian and his son-in-law were thus pulling and hauling, the daughter, like a too sensitive plant, died of a "broken heart."—Tremamondo died at Edinburgh, in April 1805, aged eighty-four.

Of the Riding-Master's early history very little is known; but from a work

* It might have been a mere mountebank name of his own assumption—it means a trembling of the world—an universal earthquake.

published by his nephew in 1830, entitled "Reminiscences of Henry Angelo," we are made acquainted with the fact of his having an elder brother of the same profession, and who resided principally in London.

In these reminiscences Angelo the younger speaks very highly of his father, Dominico Angelo Malevolti Tremamondo—not only was he the best "master of equitation," but one of the most "scientific swordsmen of the day;" and so well proportioned in lith and limb, as to be equally fitted for a "gallant in love, or a hero in war."

Angelo the elder was a native of Leghorn. His father, being a wealthy merchant there, intended him for the counting-house, but the ledger had no charms for the handsome Tremamondo, who determined to push his fortune by other means. He accordingly visited various parts of the Continent, and soon found his way to Paris, at that time, if not now, the gayest and most polite city in the world; and so effectually did Tremamondo cultivate every external accomplishment, that he became proverbially one of the most elegant men of the age, "the gayest of the gay."

Not long before he left Paris, a public fencing-match took place at a celebrated hotel, at which were present the most renowned professors and amateurs of the science. Tremamondo was persuaded by the Duc de Nivernois* to try his skill. No sooner had he entered the lists than a celebrated English beauty, Miss Margaret Woffington, the well-known actress, presented him with a *bouquet* of roses, which, as we are told, he placed on his breast with the most exquisite gallantry, and, addressing the other knights of the sword, exclaimed, "This will I protect against all opposers." Tremamondo fenced with the best of them, but none could disturb a single leaf of his *bouquet*.

While in Paris, Tremamondo had formed an acquaintance with a French officer, who boasted much of his fencing abilities. Motives of jealousy induced him to waylay our hero one night, who happened to be only armed with a *couteau de chasse*, a small sword usually worn in undress. Tremamondo, acting on the defensive for some time, at last made a home-thrust at the officer, who fell, and there was every reason to think he was mortally wounded. The officer was taken home. Next day Tremamondo visited him, and, although he found him in bed gasping, he did not think there was enough of alteration in the officer's countenance for so serious an injury. He immediately suspected there had been deception, and, throwing the bed-clothes suddenly off, discovered the officer's *cotte de maille*. The officer, ashamed at his cowardly conduct, and dreading the stigma, implored secrecy and forgiveness.

Shortly after our hero's arrival in London, he married Miss Masters, whose father had commanded the Chester man-of-war. About the year 1758, he was engaged, by the Princess Dowager of Wales, "to teach the young princes the

* The Duc de Nivernois was afterwards ambassador in England from the Court of France. Hume the historian, in a letter dated the 6th October 1763, to Dr Blair, respecting Ossian's Poems, mentions the Duc as desirous of obtaining some proofs of their authenticity, which he proposed to lay before the Academie de Belles Lettres at Paris.

use of the small-sword, and subsequently, to teach them to ride in the menage."—"During this time," continues Angelo the younger, "my father frequently took me thither, when he attended his royal pupils, and I rarely came away without a pocketful of sweetmeats." At an interview with the King, on which occasion Tremamondo displayed the various stiles of riding on his favourite horse Monarch, among others that of riding the "great horse," his Majesty was pleased to declare that Angelo was the most elegant horseman of his day; and it was in consequence of this interview that the King persuaded Mr West, the celebrated artist, when he was commissioned to paint the picture of the "Battle of the Boyne," to make a study of Tremamondo for the equestrian figure of King William. He also sat to the sculptor for the statue of King William, subsequently set up in Merrion Square, Dublin.

While in London, Tremamondo was challenged to a trial of skill with a Dr Keys, reputed the most expert fencer in Ireland. The scene of action was in an apartment of the Thatched House Tavern, where many ladies and gentlemen were present. When Tremamondo entered, arm-in-arm with his patron, Lord Pembroke, he found the Doctor without his coat and waistcoat, his shirt sleeves tucked up, and displaying a pair of brawny arms—the Doctor being a tall athletic figure. After the Doctor had swallowed a bumper of *Cogniac*, he began the attack with great violence. Tremamondo acted for some time on the defensive, with all the grace and elegance for which he was renowned, and after having planted a dozen palpable hits on the breast of his enraged antagonist, he made his bow to the ladies, and retired amid the plaudits of the spectators.

Angelo the younger relates another anecdote of his father, which he calls "a fencing-master's quarrel." Shortly after Tremamondo's appointment as fencing-master to the Prince of Wales and the Duke of York, a Mr Redman, an Irishman, who had been formerly patronised by the royal family, was continually abusing Tremamondo for a foreigner, and for having supplanted him. They met one day in the Haymarket, where words ensued, and then blows—the Irishman with a shillelah, and the Italian with a cane. On this occasion also, Tremamondo was victorious, having broke his opponent's head; but next day, to wipe off the disgrace of having fought like porters, he challenged his rival to meet him with swords, but Redman answered that he would put him in "the Crown Office," and immediately entered an action against him in the King's Bench, which ended in Tremamondo having to pay L.100 damages, and L.90 costs.

So much for the gallant Dominico Angelo Malevolti Tremamondo. We find little more recorded of him than that he was acquainted with almost all the celebrated characters of his day, whether of the "sock and buskin," or the gymnastic "art of equitation." He was generous in the extreme, and Angelo the younger had an opportunity at his father's well-replenished table of forming a most extensive and interesting acquaintance.

Old Dominico died at Eton in 1802, aged eighty-six, and was so much in possession of his faculties that he gave a lesson in fencing the day before his death.

No. XXXIII.

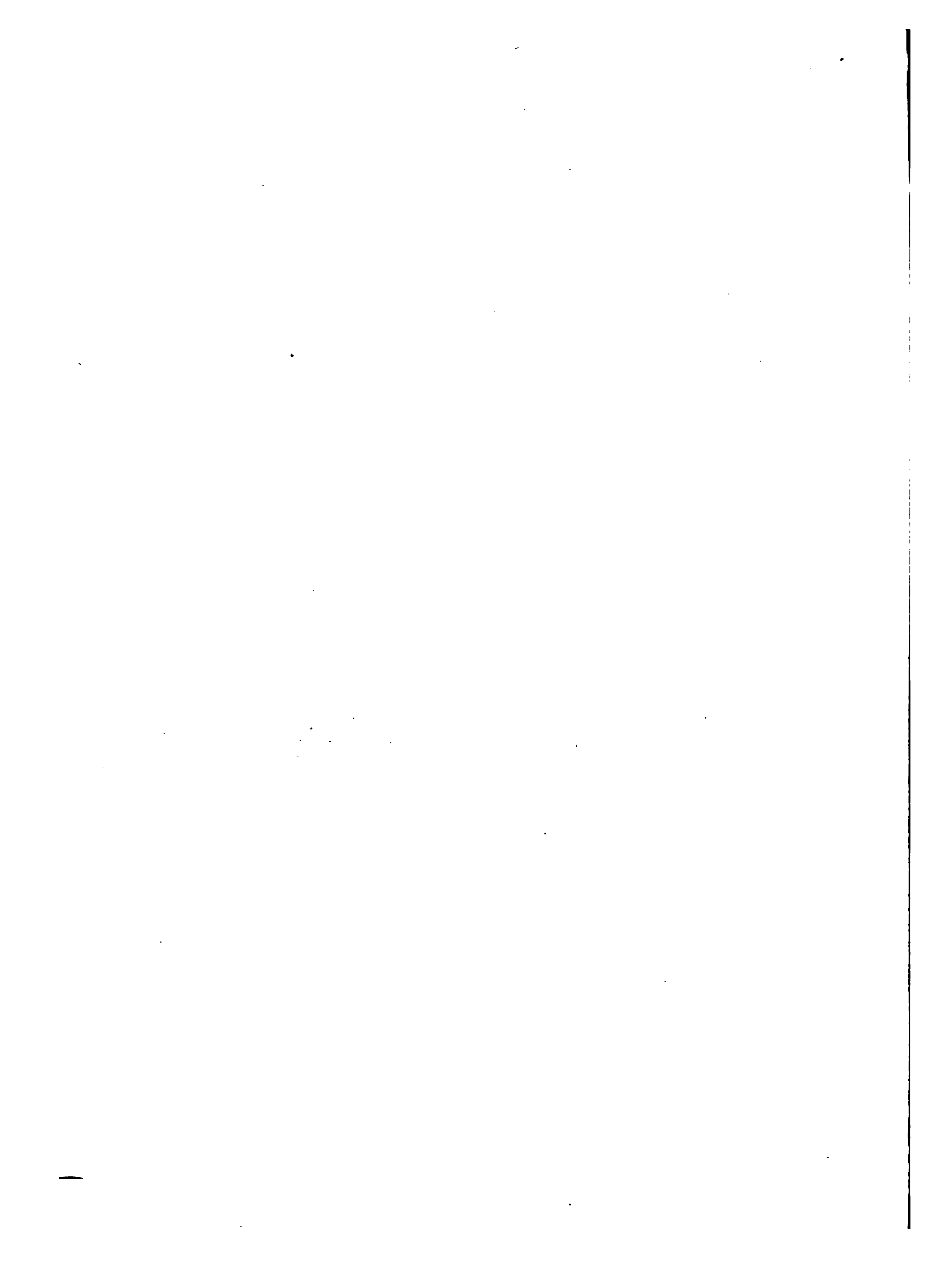
LORD ROCKVILLE,
DR ADAM SMITH, AND
COMMISSIONER BROWN.

THE first of these figures represents the Honourable ALEXANDER GORDON, third son of William second Earl of Aberdeen, by Lady Ann Gordon, daughter of Alexander second Duke of Gordon. He was born in 1739, and, having studied for the bar, was admitted Advocate, 7th August 1759. He was appointed Steward-depute of Kirkcudbright in 1764, which office he held until the year 1784, when, on the death of David Dalrymple of Westhall, he was promoted to be one of the Senators of the College of Justice, and took his seat on the 1st of July, under the title of Lord Rockville, from an estate which he purchased in the county of Haddington. His lordship lived in that close in the Castlehill now called Rockville's Close, and afterwards removed to St Andrew's Square, but did not long enjoy the honours conferred upon him; for one day when stepping from the door of his own house, in order to attend his duty in the Parliament House, he slipped his foot, fell, and broke his leg, in consequence of which he fevered, and the progress of disease could not be arrested by the best medical skill that Edinburgh could afford. This accident terminated in his death, after a very short illness, on the 18th of March 1792. "He adorned the bench by the dignified manliness of his appearance, and polished urbanity of his manners."* Though somewhat above the ordinary height, his lordship was a very handsome man. He married the Countess of Dumfries and Stair, by whom he had a family.

His lordship was a member of a convivial club, called the "Crochallan Fencibles," which held its nocturnal revels in Daniel Douglas's tavern, Anchor Close. One evening previous to his being raised to the bench, Lord Rockville made his appearance with the most rueful expression of countenance imaginable, and upon being asked what was the matter, he exclaimed with great solemnity, "Gentlemen, I have just met with the most wonderful adventure that ever befel a human being: As I was walking along the Grassmarket, all of a sudden the street rose up and struck me in the face!" This extraordinary announcement created much astonishment, which, however, soon abated upon its being ascertained that the narrator had been making too free with his bottle, and that, whilst in this state, he had fallen upon his face. This adventure afforded much amusement to the merry wags assembled, and his lordship was sadly teased to explain why "the very stones in Rome had risen in mutiny!" This anecdote

* Douglas's Peerage, vol. I. p. 22.





of his lordship is somewhat similar to that of the drunk man, who, having fallen, was observed most anxiously attempting to grasp the floor: and when asked what he meant by so doing, angrily answered, "Why, you fool! to prevent tumbling upwards, to be sure!"

The centre figure represents ADAM SMITH, LL.D., who was born at Kirkaldy, on the 5th of June 1723, a few months after the death of his father, who was Comptroller of the Customs of that town. His mother was Margaret Douglas, daughter of Mr Douglas of Stratheny. His constitution was very delicate, and required all the care and attention which a kind parent could bestow. She is reported to have treated him with unlimited indulgence; but this produced no injurious effects upon his disposition, and during the long period of sixty years, he was enabled to repay her kindness by every token which filial gratitude could inspire. A singular incident happened to him when about three years old. Whilst with his mother at Stratheny, where she was on a visit, he was one day amusing himself at the door of the house, when he was stolen by a party of vagrants, known in Scotland by the name of tinkers—*Anglice*, Egyptians or Muggers. Fortunately he was immediately missed, and his uncle pursuing them, found them located in Leslie Wood, where he was rescued from their hands.

At a proper age young Smith was sent to the parish school of Kirkaldy, then taught by Mr David Miller, a teacher, in his day, of considerable repute. In 1737, he repaired to the University of Glasgow, where he remained till 1740. Being elected as an exhibitioner on Snell's foundation, he went to Baliol College, Oxford, and resided there for seven years. Mr Snell's foundation is perhaps one of the largest and most liberal in Britain. In the year 1688, he bequeathed an estate in Warwickshire for the support of Scottish students at Baliol College, Oxford, who had studied for some years at the University of Glasgow, in which the patronage is vested. They now amount to ten, and may remain at Oxford for ten years.

Dr Smith had been originally destined for the Church of England, but not finding the ecclesiastical profession suitable to his taste, he abandoned the path that had been chalked out for him, returned to Kirkaldy, and lived two years with his mother. He fixed his residence in Edinburgh in 1748, and during that and following years, under the patronage of Lord Kames, he read Lectures on Rhetoric and the Belles Lettres. In 1751, he was elected Professor of Logic in the University of Glasgow, and in the subsequent year was removed to the Professorship of Moral Philosophy in the same seminary. He remained in this situation thirteen years, and frequently was wont to look back to this period as the most useful and happy of his life.

In 1755, "The Edinburgh Review" was projected, and to this work—which only reached two numbers, and is now remarkable for its scarcity—he contributed a review of Dr Johnson's Dictionary, and a letter addressed to the editors, containing observations on the state of literature in the different

countries of Europe. The "Theory of Moral Sentiments" appeared in 1759, and the same volume contained a dissertation on the origin of languages, and on the different genius of those which are original and compounded. Towards the end of 1763, he received an invitation from the Right Hon. Charles Townsend, to accompany Henry Duke of Buccleuch on his travels, and the liberal terms of the proposal made, added to the strong desire he had felt of visiting the Continent of Europe, induced him to resign his Professorship at Glasgow. Before he left that city, he requested all his pupils to attend him, and as each name was called over he returned the several sums he had received as fees, saying, that as he had not completely fulfilled his engagement, he was resolved his class should be instructed that year *gratis*, and the remainder of his lectures should be read by one of the senior students.

After leaving Glasgow, he joined the Duke at London early in 1764, and set out for Paris in the month of March. In this first visit to Paris they only spent ten or twelve days, and then proceeded to Toulouse, where they fixed their residence: they next undertook a pretty extensive tour through the south of France to Geneva, and about Christmas 1765, revisited Paris, where they resided till October 1766, when the Duke returned to London.

For the next ten years Dr Smith lived chiefly with his mother in Kirkcaldy, and his time was entirely occupied by his studies. In the beginning of 1776, he gave to the world the result of his labour, by the publication of his "Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations." About two years after the appearance of this work, he was appointed one of the Commissioners of his Majesty's Customs in Scotland, a preferment bestowed upon him through the interest of the Duke of Buccleuch. When he obtained this appointment he offered to resign the annuity of L.300 per annum, which had been granted him for superintending the Duke's education and travels, an offer which was immediately declined. The greater part of the two years preceding his appointment he lived in London in a society too extensive and varied to afford him any opportunity of indulging his taste for study, although much of it was spent with some of the most distinguished literary characters, as may be seen by the following verses by Dr Barnard, addressed to Sir Joshua Reynolds and his friends :—

" If I have thoughts and can't express 'em,
Gibbon shall teach me how to dress 'em,
In words select and terse ;
Jesus teach me modesty and Greek,
Smith how to think, Burke how to speak,
And Bendish to converse."

In 1778, Dr Smith removed to Edinburgh, with the view of attending to the duties of his new office, where he passed the last twelve years of his life, enjoying an affluence more than equal to all his wants. He now and then revisited London. The last time he was there, he had engaged to dine with Lord Melville, then Mr Dundas, at Wimbledon; Mr Pitt, Mr Grenville, Mr Addington, afterwards Lord Sidmouth, and some other of his lordship's friends were there.

Dr Smith happened to come late, and the company had sat down to dinner. The moment, however, he came into the room, the company all rose up; he made an apology for being late, and entreated them to sit down. "No," said the gentlemen, "we will stand till you are seated, *for we are all your scholars.*" His mother died in extreme old age in 1784. His own health and strength gradually declined, (for he began very early to feel the infirmities of age,) till the period of his death, which happened in July 1790. A few days previous to this he gave orders to destroy all his manuscripts, excepting some detached Essays, which were afterwards published, having been entrusted to the care of his executors, Dr Joseph Black and Dr James Hutton, with whom he had long lived in habits of the most intimate friendship. Although Dr Smith's income for the latter years of his life was considerable, he did not leave much fortune, owing to the hospitality and generosity of his nature. No man ever did more generous things. His library, which was a valuable one, it is understood is still preserved entire. It had devolved to his nephew, the late Lord Reston, and is now in possession of his widow.

The third figure represents GEORGE BROWN, Esq. of Lindsaylands and Elliestown, one of the Commissioners of his Majesty's Board of Excise for Scotland, a gentleman of amiable temper and suavity of manner. He had been an officer in the army, and was cousin-german to the late Lord Coalstone, one of the Lords of Session. His brother James was an architect of some eminence. He built Brown's Square, (which was named after him,) near to the Candlemaker-Row, the west side of which has been taken down, for an opening to George the Fourth's Bridge; and having feued from the city of Edinburgh the ground upon which George's Square is built, he erected most of the houses in it. He built also that large mansion formerly occupied by General Scott of Balcomie, in Drummond Place, now the Excise-Office.

The Commissioner was very attentive to the business of the revenue, and was for a considerable number of years senior member of the Board of Excise in Scotland. He lived in George's Square, and latterly in St James's Square, and died on the 5th March 1806, in the 84th year of his age. He married Miss Dorothea Dundas of Dundas, by whom he had two sons and three daughters, Viscountess Hampden, Lady Wedderburn of Ballendean, and the Hon. Lady Alexander Hope.

No. XXXIV.

ADAM SMITH, LL.D. AND F.R.S.

OF LONDON AND EDINBURGH.

THE Doctor is here represented with his celebrated work, "The Wealth of Nations," on the table before him.

No. XXXV.

THE SAPIENT SEPTEMVIRI.

KING'S COLLEGE, ABERDEEN.

THE original design of this curious Print was sent to Kay by a Mr Ross, a native of Aberdeen, and formerly student of medicine, of whom all that is known is, that he obtained the situation of a surgeon in the navy, but lost it in consequence of having made his brother officers the victims of his talent for *caricatura*.

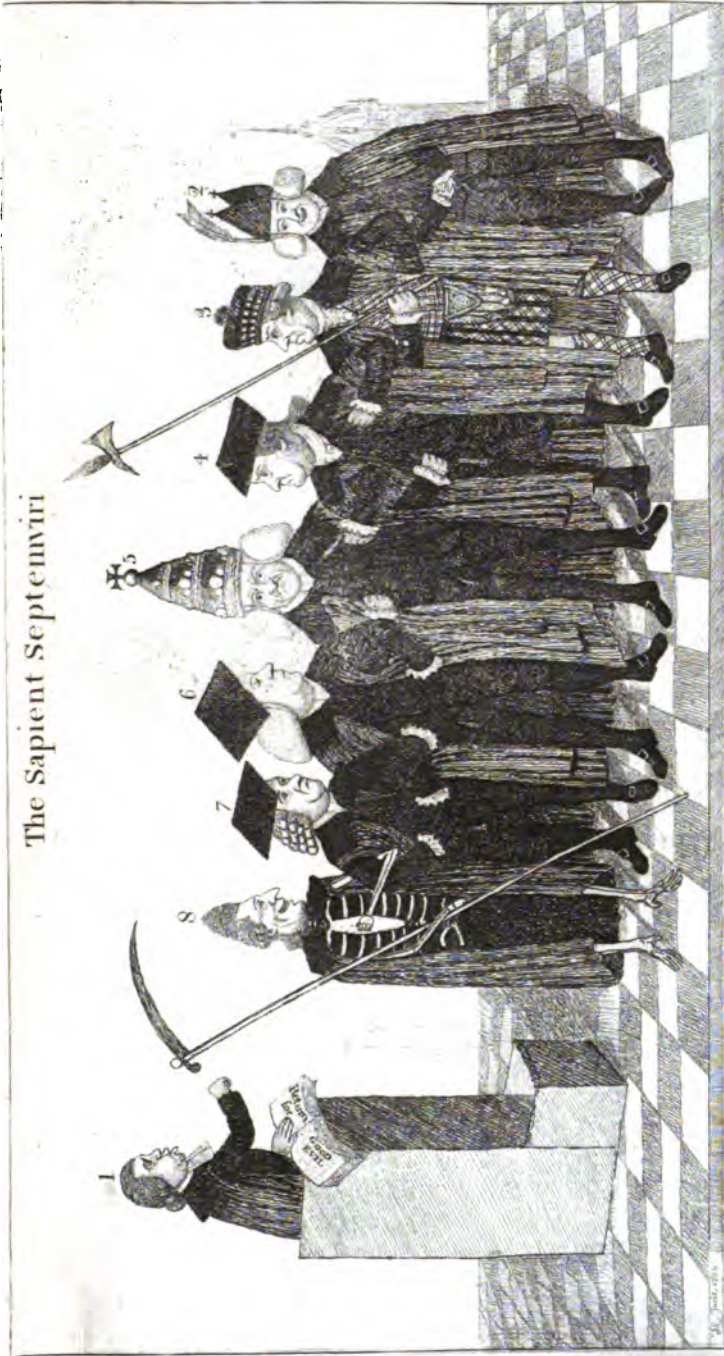
The Seven Professors of King's College, caricatured in this Print, were all hostile to a scheme of the day (1786), for the union of King's and Marischal Colleges.* There is perhaps still in existence a similar effort of Ross's pencil, in which some of the Professors of Marischal College make a not less ridiculous figure. This last Print we have never chanced to see, but we have been informed that the famous Principal Campbell occupied a conspicuous place in it, and that attached to his effigies was the punning interrogatory—"What do the Scriptures *Principal*-ly teach?"

In the above Print, DR SKENE OGILVY is represented as inculcating on the Septemviri the duty of returning good for evil. The Doctor was senior minister of Old Aberdeen, and was formerly minister of the parish of Skene. He was a man of great natural talents, but was never remarkable for much application. His powers as a preacher were of no ordinary cast, and many yet remember the stirring effect of his eloquence on his hearers. He was remarkable for a vein of broad humour, and abounded with amusing anecdote, but unfortunately his many happy sayings have "left but their fame behind." The Doctor carried his contempt of external appearances of religion to a length which some were disposed to regard as inconsistent with the gravity of the clerical character. In reference to this trait, he used to relate with great glee the following anecdote: Soon after his settlement at Skene, he overheard the beadle and sexton of the parish discussing the merits of their new minister! "I dinna think," said the sexton, "that our new man has the religion o' the auld."—"Weel," continued the beadle, "if he has nae religion he pretends to as little."

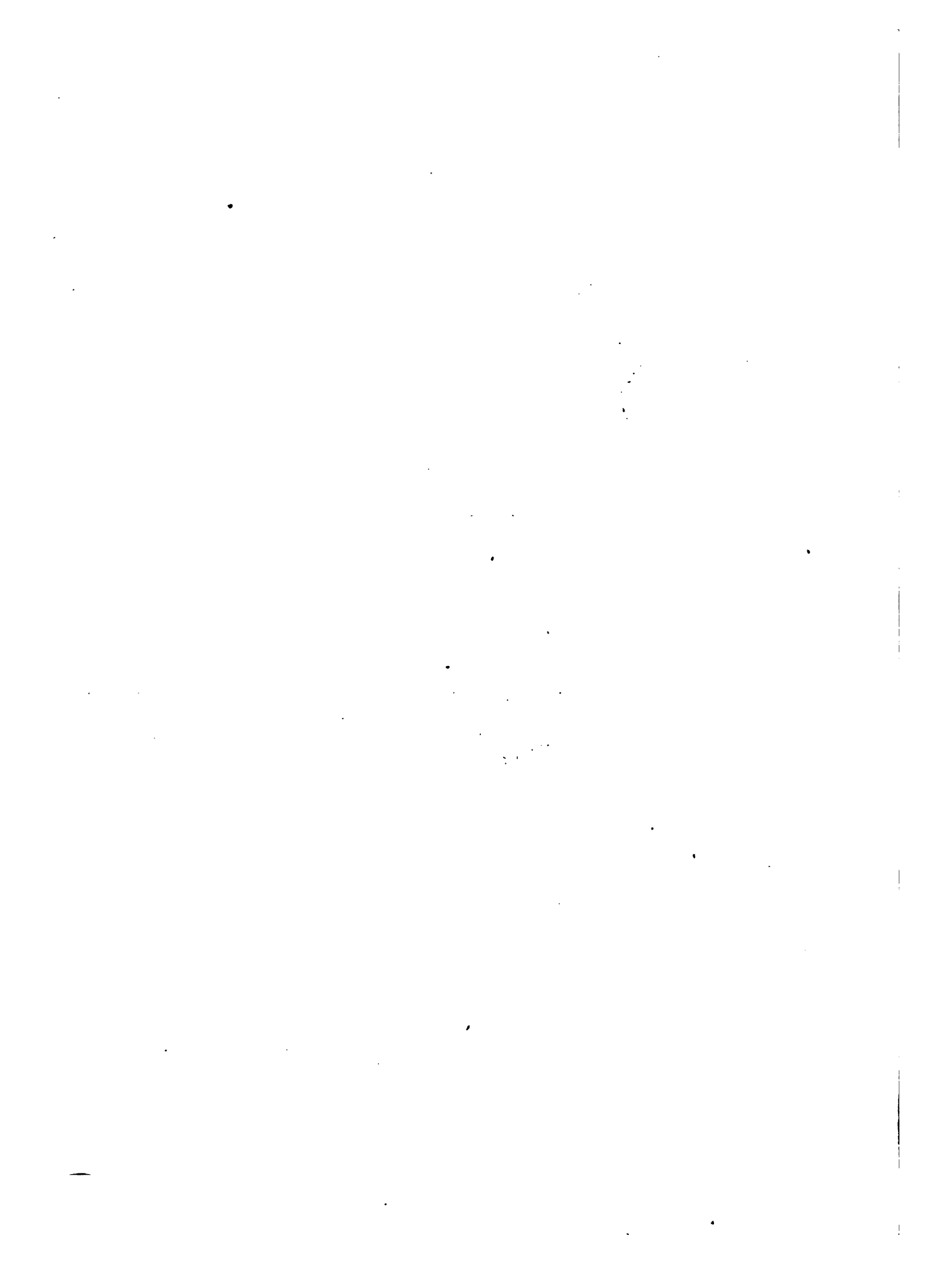
When the Doctor was a student at College, it was customary for the aspirants to the degree of A. M. to deliver a thesis in the public hall of the College: when Skene's turn came, he mounted the rostrum, and began to make diligent search in all his pockets for his MS.; no papers, however, were forthcoming. Nothing disconcerted, he very coolly took out an immense mull, and, after a

* A similar scheme has recently been warmly agitated.

The Sapient Septemviri



- 1 The Beauty of Hobbes's Lecturing.
- 2 Had you not sold your Patrimony, first Minister might have been a member to my Divine Chair of Verity & taste.
- 3 A manly fir: 2 years and upwards have I beat up, even to the Climate Thule have I recruited our University.
- 4 Have rendered Vermacular the Greek Language from Aberdeen to Aberdeen.
- 5 Agriculture is the Nichest of Sciences, mind your Glades, the Emperors of China is a Farmer.
- 6 Has not the Effluence of my Circumference been a light unto your feet, and a lamp unto your Paths.
- 7 College property, Patrimony are unalienable, so says the Law, the Noble Patron has rewarded most justly your Rapacity.
- 8 Degrees Made and made in Medicine and Midwifery, sold here for ready money.



heartly pinch of snuff, exclaimed, "*Vir sapit qui pauca loquitur!*" and then descended from the rostrum with the greatest composure.

He used to boast that when a student he once forced a smile from Professor Leslie, while engaged in the act of public prayer with the students. Skene had a fever, and was obliged for some time to wear a huge horse-hair wig. One morning, during prayers, he doffed his wig, and threw it into the middle of the floor, at the same time affecting to look round, that he might discover the wag who had treated him with such indignity. He then went quickly forward, took up the wig, and studiously placed it with the back part in front of his bald pow. The whole affair was conducted, on his part, with such comic gravity, as to force a smile from the saturnine Professor.

In the latter part of his life, Dr Ogilvy had an attack of apoplexy, which tended to weaken his mental faculties. He ultimately repaired to London, where he died a few years ago. The Print strongly resembles him. He was a very plain-looking man; and hence his *sobriquet* of "The Beauty of Holiness." It was the fashion of his younger days to *powder* deeply: a friend as ugly as himself, chancing to meet him one day, compared him to the foul fiend looking out from under a wreath of snow—"Gude e'en to you, brither Hornie!" was the Doctor's ready reply.

No. II.—DR ALEXANDER GERARD. This eminent Professor first held the chair of Moral Philosophy, and afterwards that of Divinity, in Marischal College, from which chair he was translated in 1771 to the Professorship of Divinity in King's College. His works on Taste and Genius are well known. He died in March 1795. He is represented as addressing his colleagues, and saying—"Had you not sold your patronages, first minister might have been annexed to my divine chair of verity and taste." This alluded to what had taken place a considerable number of years before. As the revenue of the College was but very slender, the members were reduced to the necessity of having recourse, for the improvement of it, to such means as were within their reach. With this view, several schemes were proposed about the year 1751, and at last the sale of the "Superiorities and Church Patronages" was adopted, by which it is said that three thousand pounds sterling were added to the funds of the society. The purchase was made by the Earl of Fife, who thus acquired the right of patronage to about fifteen parishes. The quill in the Doctor's cap probably refers to his diligence and success as an author.

No. III.—MR RODERICK M'LEOD, Sub-Principal of King's College. This gentleman was for many years a Professor in the University, and in 1764 was chosen Sub-Principal. Whilst holding this appointment, he became remarkable for his extraordinary exertions in procuring students to enter King's College. His general acquaintance throughout the Highlands afforded him excellent opportunities of doing so; and he was not sparing of his endeavours. His tours through the north of Scotland were long proverbial in

Aberdeen; on which account he is attired in the costume of a Highlander, with a Lochaber axe. Upon the demise of Principal Chalmers, he was unanimously elected in his place, and held the office till the period of his death, upon the 11th of September 1815, in the eighty-eighth year of his age.

No. IV.—Said to be a capital likeness of MR JOHN LESLIE, Professor of the Greek Language in King's College, Aberdeen. He was accused—whether justly or unjustly we know not—of saying that he had rendered the Greek language vernacular from Aberdour, in Fife, to Aberdeen. He was an old schoolfellow of Dr Robertson, the historian, through whose recommendation he obtained the Professorship. He died at Old Aberdeen, upon the 24th of May 1790, aged sixty-nine.

No. V.—DR JOHN CHALMERS, who held the situation of Principal of King's College for nearly threescore years. He was a man of very considerable learning, but devoted himself chiefly to agricultural pursuits. He had so long held the Principalship, that the patience of some of the expectants of the office seemed wellnigh worn out. The Doctor was aware of this, and used to make it the occasion of many a sly joke. He had a farm at Sc lattie, in the neighbourhood of Aberdeen, whither he used to retire during the summer months. On one of his journeys thither he fell from his horse, and received a severe contusion on the shoulder. The report of the accident soon spread, and it was confidently affirmed at Aberdeen that the Principal was lying at the point of death. Two of the Professors, each an aspirant to the expected vacancy, set out post-haste to inquire after their friend's health, and arrived simultaneously, although by different routes, at Sc lattie. They were ushered into the silent and darkened chamber of the wounded man, and, on stealthy tiptoe, with countenances composed into fitting demureness, took their stations on opposite sides of what they believed (hoped?) was his death-bed. A solemn silence of some minutes was at length abruptly broken by the Principal thrusting out his cap-enveloped head, and putting the perplexing question, "Weel, gentlemen, which of you is to be Principal?" The Professors looked first at the Doctor, then at each other, and, after a hearty laugh, in which the Principal's voice was "ready chorus," sincerely congratulated him on his escape. The Doctor, however, survived them both. He died at Sc lattie upon the 7th May 1800.

No. VI.—MR THOMAS GORDON, commonly called "Humorist Gordon." He was Professor of Philosophy for a long period of years. He possessed vast and varied learning—was a scholar, a mathematician, an antiquarian, and a divine. He was uncle to the late talented Dr Eden Scott Gordon, and was one of a literary club which used to hold their weekly meeting in an inn in Old Aberdeen. He was a man of a jovial turn, fond of anecdote, and a great humorist. On one occasion he had given dire offence to Professor Leslie, who in con-

sequence sent the humorist a challenge: Gordon accepted, but claimed the privilege of choosing the weapons. He chose any one of the Greek tragedians, and pledged himself to foil Leslie at his own weapons, adding, "Gif ye dinna beat me, I'll tak the tawse to your hurdies!" The encounter never took place. Gordon was the chief conductor of the comparative trial for the Professorship of Mathematics in Marischal College when Playfair, Hamilton, and Traill, were candidates, the latter being successful. He died on the 11th August 1797, at the advanced age of eighty-three.

No. VII.—DR WILLIAM THOM, of Craigston, advocate, and Professor of Civil Law in King's College, Aberdeen, who died on the 9th April 1795. He was much enraged at the alienation of the patronages, and did not hesitate to declare that the Earl of Fife, by giving so little for them, had most justly rewarded their rapacity.

No. VIII.—DR WILLIAM CHALMERS, Professor of Medicine. Of these last two individuals little is known, save that, like the patriarchs, they lived and died. They were both worthy men, and far better than many who have been more extensively and permanently known and extolled.

No. XXXVI.

VINCENT LUNARDI,

IN HIS BASKET, READY TO ASCEND.

THIS celebrated aeronaut visited Scotland in the month of September 1785. His first ascent took place at Edinburgh, on the 5th of October following, from Heriot's Hospital Green. The Print, which is allowed to be an excellent likeness of Lunardi, represents him as he appeared ready to ascend. His dress was of scarlet, with blue facings.

Several aerial attempts had been made at Edinburgh, with partial success, in 1784, by Mr Tytler, but the previous fame of Lunardi created an unparalleled excitement in Scotland, so that an immense concourse of people of all classes were assembled to witness what had hitherto been deemed almost an impossibility. "In the Green of Heriot's Hospital," it is said, "the company was numerous and genteel, and the concourse of people on the different eminences were immense. It is calculated that above 80,000 spectators assembled on this occasion, which put a stop to almost all business for a great part of the day, and most of the shops were shut. At twelve o'clock a flag was displayed from the Castle, and a gun (which had been brought from Leith Fort,) was fired from the Green when the process of filling the balloon began. At half-past two it was completely inflated." All the arrangements being completed, Mr Lunardi

gave the signal at ten minutes to three, when the balloon ascended in a S.S.E. direction, "in the most grand and magnificent manner," amid the acclamations of the people. He passed over the city at a great height, waving his flag as he proceeded. According to Lunardi's own account, "the balloon, after rising, took a north-east direction, and, near to the Island of Inchkeith, came down almost to the sea; he then threw out some ballast, and the balloon rose higher than before. A current of wind carried him east to North Berwick; a different current then changed his course, and brought him over between Leven and Largo. After this, a S.S.W. breeze brought him to the place where he descended," which was on the estate of the Hon. John Hope, a mile east from Ceres. "When the balloon was at its highest elevation (about three miles,) the barometer stood at eighteen inches five-tenths. Mr Lunardi at this time felt no difficulty in respiration. He passed through several clouds of snow, and lost sight at times both of sea and land. His excursion took about an hour and a half; and it would appear he passed over upwards of forty miles of sea, and about ten of land." On his descending, Mr Lunardi was first welcomed by Mr Robert Christie, and next by the Rev. Robert Arnot, who came running, with a crowd of people after him. He was accompanied to Ceres by a body of gentlemen who soon collected, where he was "received by the acclamations of a prodigious multitude, his flag being carried in procession before him, and the church-bell ringing in honour of such a visitant." At the manse of Ceres he drank a few glasses of wine, and both there and at the house of Mr Melville he received the compliments of a great many ladies and gentlemen. The same evening he started for Cupar, having been invited by the authorities, where the most enthusiastic reception awaited him. After having been next day entertained at dinner, and presented with the freedom of the burgh, he proceeded to St Andrew's, to which place he had been invited by the Club of Gentlemen Golfers, where he was made a citizen, and had, by diploma, the honour of "Knight of the Beggar's Benison" conferred upon him.

Such is a brief account of Lunardi's first aerial trip in Scotland. Brilliant it certainly was, and it is as unquestionable, that although half a century has since elapsed, it has not been surpassed.* Many anecdotes are told of the surprise and terror of the peasantry on first beholding the balloon. Some reapers in a field near to Ceres were dreadfully alarmed—judging from so uncommon an appearance, and the sound of Lunardi's trumpet—that the end of all things was at hand. Certain it is, however, that the Rev. Mr Arnot, who was previously aware of Lunardi's ascent, required considerable persuasion to convince the people that they might approach the object of their terror without fear of supernatural injury.

Mr Lunardi's next adventure took place at Kelso, on the 22d of October. In this flight he did not ascend above a mile, keeping constantly in view of the

* An eye-witness informs us "that there has been no exhibition nearly so grand as Lunardi's first ascent. All the other ascents since his time have been dazing, sluggish-looking exhibitions, whereas Lunardi went off in the grandest style, precisely resembling a sky-rocket."

earth. After the lapse of nearly an hour and a half, he anchored in Doddington Moor, when some people getting hold of the ropes, he was carried to Bar-moor in Northumberland, where he descended. The aeronaut had been invited to Kelso by the gentlemen of the Caledonian Hunt. While here he was much delighted with the races, and in one of his letters alludes to a match between the Duke of Hamilton and Robert Baird, Esq., who rode their own horses; he likens the contest to the ancient Olympic games. "He dined on Saturday with Sir James Douglas of Springwoodpark, and supped with the gentlemen of the Caledonian Hunt. On Sunday he was entertained by Sir James Pringle, * at Stichel; on Monday by Lord Home at Hirsell, and same evening by the ancient Lodge of Freemasons." He is stated also to have taken "much notice of the two Miss Halls of Thornton, Miss Wilkie of Doddington, and Miss Car of Newcastle," who no doubt were highly gratified by his condescension!!

Glasgow was next visited by the aeronaut, where he ascended from St Andrew's Square on the 23d of November. A crowd of nearly 100,000 persons had assembled to witness his flight. The balloon took a north-east direction for about 25 miles; the wind then changing, he was carried south-east until he descended near Alemoor, in Selkirkshire, having passed over a distance of 125 miles in two hours. Lunardi thus describes his descent: "When I came in sight of the heathy hills I heard a voice call, 'Lunardi, come down!' quite plain, and I knew not who it was. I saw at a distance sheep feeding, but could not see a human being. I called aloud several times through the hill, and after a minute, or seventy seconds, I could hear the echo of my words returned as loud as they were pronounced, but I never had repeated 'Lunardi, come down,' though I heard these words several times repeated, on which I answered through the trumpet, 'hallo, hallo,' with a great voice. I heard the words 'Lunardi, hallo,' repeated, and being now quite free from interruption of clouds, I could see distinctly some people on horseback; at last I hastened my descent between two hills, where I came down as light as a feather. Two trembling shepherds came to me, an old man and a boy, whom I encouraged by calling to them, 'My dear friends, come hither.' They crossed the water and came up to me." At this time Mr and Mrs Chisholm of Stirches, happened to be returning on horseback from a visit, who very kindly received Mr Lunardi, at whose suggestion Mrs Chisholm boldly took possession of the car, resigning her horse to the aeronaut, and while some shepherds held on by the ropes, the party thus proceeded a distance of nearly three miles. Lunardi spent the night at Stirches, and dined next day with the magistrates of Hawick, who presented him with the freedom of the town.

Mr Lunardi made a second ascent from Glasgow on the 5th of December, and, as on the former occasion, he was witnessed by a vast concourse of people. His ascent was very majestic; but he did not proceed to a great distance, hav-

* Sir James succeeded his uncle, Sir John Pringle, F.R.S., the distinguished physician and cultivator of science, who accompanied the Duke of Cumberland to Scotland, and remained with the army after the battle of Culloden till its return to England in August 1746.

ing alighted at Campsie, about twelve miles distant, where he was received by the Rev. Mr Lapslie, minister of that place, who transmitted an account of his descent to one of the Glasgow journals.

The fifth ascent of Lunardi in Scotland, and the second at Edinburgh, again occurred at Heriot's Hospital Green. He made offer of the profits of this second exhibition for the benefit of the Charity Workhouse, but the directors politely declined accepting his offer, on the ground that, however desirous they might be to promote the interest of the institution, they were unwilling that any one should *risk his life* for its benefit. On Tuesday the 20th December, Lunardi took his flight a few minutes before one o'clock. On this occasion he was dressed in the uniform of the Scots Archers, having been previously admitted an honorary member of that body, as well as having had the freedom of Edinburgh conferred upon him. He was also provided with a cork jacket, as on the former occasion, furnished by Dr Rae, together with other precautionary means of safety, in case of an immersion in the German Ocean.* These, as it happened, were not without their use. The balloon ascended with great rapidity, taking a more easterly direction than formerly, and was seen, by means of a telescope, about two o'clock, in rather a perilous situation, about two miles north-east of Gullan-ness. Not far from this place, it appears the balloon had descended so low as to immerse the car in the water, when some fishermen observing the occurrence, immediately proceeded to his rescue. Owing, however, to the rapidity with which the car was dragged, nearly three quarters of an hour elapsed before they were able to render any assistance; and when they came up, Lunardi was breast deep in the water, and benumbed with cold. They were then five or six miles from land. He would have cut away the balloon, but seeing the fishermen approaching, he was unwilling to lose it by doing so. On leaving the car for the boat, however, the balloon, being thus lightened, rose with great force, carrying every appendage with it in its flight. Mr Lunardi was then taken to Mr Nisbet's of Dirleton, where he spent the evening. In a letter dated that night to the magistrates of Edinburgh, he speaks lightly of his danger, expresses regret at losing the balloon, but was hopeful that the people would be satisfied with his conduct. Fortunately, the balloon was picked up next day by the May cutter, about twelve miles off Anstruther.

Lunardi then returned to England, exhibiting his aerial ingenuity in the provincial towns, (having been in London some time previous to his arrival in Scotland.) A very unfortunate occurrence took place on his ascending at Newcastle:—A Mr Heron having hold of one of the ropes, incautiously twisted it round his arm, and not being able to disentangle himself in time, he was lifted up to a considerable height, when the rope giving way, he fell, and was killed on the spot. Mr Heron was on the eve of marriage, and at the time the accident occurred the lady of his affections was by his side.

* On this occasion, says our informant, Lunardi was positively assured, from the direction of the wind, that he would be driven into the German Ocean. "Me don't mind that—somebody will *pick* me up." Fortunately for him somebody did *pick* him up.

Mr Lunardi again visited Edinburgh the year following (1786), and ascended the third time from Heriot's Hospital Green, on the 31st of July. On this occasion a lady (Mrs Lamash, an actress,) was to have accompanied him, and had actually taken her seat in the car; but the balloon being unable to ascend with both, Lunardi ascended alone. In consequence of little wind, he came down about two miles distant. On his return to the city in the evening, he was carried through the streets in his car by the populace, and received other demonstrations of admiration.

Very little is known of Mr Lunardi's personal history, save that he was a native of Italy, and some time Secretary to the then late Neapolitan ambassador. In 1786, he published an account of his aerial voyages in Scotland, which he dedicated to the Duke and Duchess of Buccleuch. This small volume, although proving him to be a man of education, and some talent as a writer, throws very little light upon his history. It consists of a series of letters addressed to his "guardian, Chevalier Gerardo Compagni." These letters were evidently written under the impulse of the moment, and afford a connected detail of his progress in Scotland. They are chiefly interesting at this distance of time, as showing the feelings and motives of one, who, whether his "labours were misdirected" or not, obtained an extraordinary degree of notoriety. In short, the volume is amusing in this particular, and adds another proof to the many, that few, very few, seek the advancement of society, or of the sciences, for humanity's sake alone. Fame is the grand stimulus. A portrait of the author is prefixed, which corresponds extremely well with Mr Kay's sketches of him. Lunardi must have been at that time a very young man.

The young adventurer, on his arrival in the Scottish capital, is much pleased with its ancient and romantic appearance. He expresses himself with great animation on all he sees around him, and apparently with great sincerity. As a specimen of the man and his opinions, we are induced to make one or two extracts. In the first letter, after describing his arrival, he says:—

"I have apartments in Walker's Hotel, Prince's Street, from whence I behold innumerable elegant buildings, and my ears are saluted with the sounds of industry from many others similarly arising. Hail to the voice of labour! It vibrates more forcibly on the chords of my heart than the most harmonious notes of music, and gives birth to sensations that I would not exchange for all the boasted pleasures of luxury and dissipation."

These sentiments would have done credit to one less gay and youthful than Lunardi. In another letter he says, "I am now happy in the acquaintance of the Hon. Henry Erskine, Sir William Forbes, and Major Fraser." True to his clime, however, the letters of Lunardi betray in him all the volatility and passion ascribed to his countrymen. At one moment he is in ecstasy, the other in despair. He had chosen George's Square for his first display, and had contracted with Isaac Braidwood of the Luckenbooths, who had actually begun

to enclose the area, when an order from the Magistrates stopped farther proceedings. The vexation and despair of the aeronaut at this manifestation of hostility is indescribable. He writes :—" I understand a *lady* has been the underhand prompter ! Hold, I beg pardon of the fair sex ; they are my best friends, and I prize their approbation beyond the highest honour fame can give ! And shall a female Machiavel of *fifty* be ranked with them ? Forbid it, politeness—forbid it, humanity—forbid it, truth !"

He subsequently obtained the use of Heriot's Hospital Green, advertised his ascent, but another disappointment occurred, and another paroxysm ensued. The waggoner from Liverpool had deceived him as to the time of his arrival—his apparatus for filling the balloon would not be forwarded till after the day advertised. " What shall I do ?" he writes to his guardian ; " Numbers of people will come from Aberdeen and Glasgow, and they must be disappointed ! *Maledictus homo quis confidit in homine !* Oh ! what a frame of mind I am in !" And then follows the confession—" Fame and glory, ye objects of my pursuits, ye destroy my peace of mind, yet are ye still dear to me."

To help him out of this dilemma, one Mr Chalmers, a plumber, engaged to make him two vats or cisterns, in sufficient time for his purposes, but when the day appointed arrived, Chalmers had not fulfilled his promise, coolly saying he could not get them done. Such repeated disappointments were enough to make the most " phlegmatic mortal" mad. " My patience forsook me," says Lunardi ; " I loaded him with invectives, but they were all thrown away upon the phlegmatic mortal ; he quietly maintained his *sang froid*."

Mr Erskine having directed the aeronaut to a Mr Selby, another plumber, who quickly set to work upon the vats, our hero is again transported from the depths of despair to happiness. " I am now in a happy frame of mind," he writes, " for conversing with the ladies, two hundred of whom have called this morning,"—(at the Parliament House, where the balloon was exhibiting.)

For the honour of the " Land of Cakes," we cannot refrain from quoting the following eulogium on our countrywomen, at the close of last century :—

" Happy mortal ! you exclaim ; and well you might, could you form any idea of the SCOTTISH BEAUTIES ! Their height, in general, approaches to what I would call the majestic, adorned with easy elegance ; their figures are such as Grecian artists might have been proud to copy. But to describe their faces. The pencil of Titian, or Michael Angelo, could scarce have done them justice ! No perfume shop supplies the beautiful colour that glows on their cheeks and lips : it is the pure painting of health, and pictures forth minds as pure. Nature has made them lovely, and they have not suffered art to spoil her works. I have endeavoured to give you some idea of their personal charms, but their mental ones are far more striking. Grace without affectation—frankness without levity—good humour without folly—and dignity without pride—are the distinguishing characteristics."

This is no doubt the language of poetic feeling ; but however enthusiastic an admirer of the fair sex the young Italian may have been, he shows himself not

incapable of appreciating the duties of social sober life. In another letter he says:—

“The people of distinction in Scotland are blest with elegance and happiness, and know not that insatiable ambition, which, while it swallows up every other comfort and endearment of life, never fails to prove the bane of human bliss; their enjoyments are chiefly those of the domestic kind—a virtuous and lovely wife—the education and company of their children.” Truly may we add, in the language of Burns—

“From scenes like these old Scotia’s grandeur springs.”

Judging of Lunardi from his letters while in Scotland, he seems to have been a youth of a warm temperament—amiable in his feelings—of a poetical vein; but extremely vain and ambitious; and, like many of his countrymen, volatile and irritable. Young and handsome, he was not only an admirer of the ladies, but was in turn himself admired. The marked attention on the part of the fair sex seemed too powerful for the youthful aeronaut’s good sense—his conceit became intolerable. Once when in company, being called on for a toast, he gave—“Lunardi, whom the ladies love.” This instance of bad taste and audacious conceit might have been the burst of an unguarded moment, but it had the effect of disgusting all who heard him.

In compliment to the aerial stranger, the Scottish ladies wore what they called “Lunardi bonnets,” of a peculiar construction, and which for some time were universally fashionable. They were made of gauze or thin muslin, extended on wire, the upper part representing the balloon. Burns, in his “Address to a Louse,” alludes to this head-dress in the following words:—

“I wadna been surpris’d to spy
You on an auld wife’s flannin’ toy;
Or aiblins some bit duddy boy—
On’s wyliecoat;
But Miss’s fine *Lunardi*! fie,
How daur ye do’t.”

Lunardi died of a decline, in the convent of Barbadinus, at Lisbon, on the 31st of January 1806.

NO. XXXVII.

MARRIAGE.

By reversing this Print, the difference between “Before and After” will be readily observed, as in too many cases, to have been faithfully delineated by Kay. This Print, having found its way into Germany, was copied on the lids of snuff-boxes, and other fancy articles manufactured there.

No. XXXVIII.

A GROUP OF AERONAUTS.

IN this group the principal figure is LUNARDI, of whom we have previously given some account. The next, to the left, is MR JAMES TYTLER, chemist, and well known in Edinburgh as a literary character of some eminence. He was born at the manse of Fearn, of which place his father was minister. James received an excellent provincial education; and afterwards, with the proceeds of a voyage or two to Greenland, in the capacity of medical assistant, he removed to Edinburgh to complete his knowledge of medicine, where he made rapid progress not only in his professional acquirements, but in almost every department of literature.

At an early period he became enamoured of a sister of Mr Young, Writer to the Signet, whom he married. From this event may perhaps be dated the laborious and poverty-stricken career of Tytler. His means, at the very outset, were unequal to the task of providing for his matrimonial engagements, and from one failure to another he seems to have descended, until reduced to the verge of indigence.

He first attempted to establish himself as a surgeon in Edinburgh; and then removed to Newcastle, where he commenced a laboratory, but without success. In the course of a year or two he returned to Leith, where he opened a shop for the sale of chemical preparations; and here again his evil destiny prevailed. It is possible his literary bias might have operated as a drag upon his exertions. These repeated failures seem to have destroyed his domestic happiness. His wife, after presenting him with several children, left him to manage them as best he could, and resided with her friends, some time in Edinburgh, and afterwards in the Orkneys.

Previous to this domestic occurrence, Tytler had abandoned all his former religious connexions, and even opinions; and now finding himself thrown upon his literary resources, he announced a work entitled, "Essays on the most important subjects of Natural and Revealed Religion." Unable to find a bookseller or printer willing to undertake the publication of his Essays, Tytler's genius and indefatigable spirit were called forth in an extraordinary manner. Having constructed a printing-press upon a principle different from those in use,* and having procured some old materials, he set about arranging the types of his Essays with his own hands, and without previously having written down his thoughts upon paper. Mr Kay states in his MS., that twenty-three num-

* Supposed to have been the origin of those afterwards manufactured by the ingenious John Ruthven.—*Chambers's Biography.*

bers of the *Essays* were issued in this manner, and were only interrupted in consequence of other engagements entered into by the author.

Mr Tytler was known by his previous literary contributions, but his fame was increased by the publication of his *Essays*, which were admired not only for the clearness of their reasoning, but for the extraordinary manner of their production.

The attention of the booksellers being thus directed towards him, he was engaged in 1776 as a contributor, or rather as editor of the second edition of the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, a work which, under his management, was enlarged from three to eight volumes quarto. Subsequently, he was much employed by the booksellers in compilations and abridgments; the most important of which was the *Edinburgh Geographical Grammar*. Besides conducting various periodicals, he published a translation of the four *Eclogues* of Virgil into English verse; and from his own press, in a similar manner to his *Essays*, issued the first volume of a general *History of all Nations*.

At the commencement of the "balloon mania," Tytler's genius took a new flight. In 1784, he issued proposals to ascend in a fire-balloon, when a considerable sum was immediately subscribed to enable him to proceed with the experiment. He accordingly constructed a balloon of about forty feet in height, and thirty in diameter, with stove and other apparatus; but although he had contemplated ascending during the week of the races, (early in August,) it was not till the 27th of that month that he succeeded in making a decisive attempt. On this occasion he rose to the height of three hundred and fifty feet. The scene of the experiment was at Comely Gardens, near the King's Park. Although he succeeded in demonstrating the principle of a fire-balloon, all his attempts were short of success. When Lunardi visited Scotland in 1785, he was of course much interested in the aeronaut's success, and hence Mr Kay has, with much propriety, associated him with the "fowls of a feather." In the volume published by Lunardi in London, (which we have elsewhere noticed,) giving an account of his Scottish aerial voyages, we find a poetical address to that gentleman by Mr Tytler, commencing:—

Ethereal traveller! welcome from the skies—
Welcome to earth to feast our longing eyes."

This effusion was no doubt in compliment to the successful aeronaut; but as Tytler, in a long note, is careful to explain the principle of his "fire-balloon," and the causes of failure, it is to be presumed that the author was influenced by a desire to set himself right in the opinion of Lunardi and the public. In this note Tytler attributes his ill success, in the first instance, to the want of proper shelter, and the smallness of the stove, which could not supply enough of heat. In the second, his friends were alarmed at the idea of "dragging into air" a cumbrous iron apparatus, and therefore, although Tytler gave directions to have the stove enlarged, they deceived him by actually making it less. By this time the public were highly dissatisfied, and he states that he was vilified

in the newspapers—denounced as a coward and a scoundrel—and pointed to as one deserving magisterial surveillance. “I bore it all,” says poor Tytler, “with patience, well knowing that one successful trial would speedily change the public opinion.” Accordingly, on the third occasion, he did not trust to his friends; he had the stove enlarged nearly a foot, and with great hopes of success proceeded to the trial. So early as five o’clock in the morning the balloon was inflated, and when he took his seat it rose with much force; but having come in contact with a tree, the stove was broken in pieces, while the adventurer himself narrowly escaped injury. This disaster put an end to the speculation, although not to the spirit of the projector, who remained firmly convinced of the practicability of his invention.

Tytler’s first wife being dead, he married, in 1779, a sister of Mr John Cairns, fletcher in Edinburgh, by which union he had one daughter. On the death of his second wife in 1782, he was wedded, a third time, to Miss Aikenhead in December following, by whom, says Mr Kay’s MS., “he has two daughters (twins) so remarkably like each other, though now four years of age, that they can hardly be distinguished from each other, even by their parents, who are often obliged to ask their name, individually, at the infants themselves.” Kay also mentions, and while he does so, admits his own belief in the practicability of the invention, that he (Tytler) “is at present engaged in the construction of a machine, which, if he completes it according to his expectations, will in all probability make his fortune.” This machine was no less than “the *perpetuum mobile*, or an instrument which, when once set a-going, will continue in motion for ever!”

Kay farther adds—“He has just completed a chemical discovery of a certain water for bleaching linen, which performs the operation in a few hours, without hurting the cloth.” This was a practical and beneficial discovery; but like the other labours of Tytler, however much others may have reaped the benefit, it afforded very little to himself.

To add to, or rather to crown the misfortunes of the unlucky son of genius, he espoused the cause of the “Friends of the People,” in 1792, and having published a small pamphlet of a seditious nature, was obliged to abscond. He went to Ireland, where he finished a work previously undertaken, called “A System of Surgery,” in three volumes. Immediately afterwards he removed to the United States, where he resumed his literary labours, but died in a few years after, while conducting a newspaper at Salem. His family were never able to rejoin him.*

The third, in the background on the left, represented, when first executed,

* In a life of Tytler, Edinburgh, 1805, 12mo, it is said that he had “a brother a medical gentleman of a respectable character on the Staff of Great Britain, well known to the literary by his translation of Callimachus, *highly commended by the great Quintilian* ;” a strange fact, certainly, and one which, however creditable to the Roman’s prophetic knowledge, says very little for his critical acumen, for more wretched stuff can hardly be figured. Tytler’s anonymous biographer further informs his reader—“He has also a daughter in Edinburgh, in the capacity of a servant maid, whose conduct, I have reason to believe, is such as to be no disgrace to her respectable connexions.”

an ingenious artist, but who, from a feeling of modesty, prevailed on the limner to alter it.

The fourth, or extreme figure on the left, is **MR JOHN MITCHELL**, of the firm of Mitchell and White, hardware-merchants, at that time residing in North Bridge Street. He was a respectable trader, and a great admirer of balloons.

The fifth, in the background on the right, is a capital likeness of **MR JAMES NEILSON**, writer and clerk to the Rev. Sir Henry Moncrieff Wellwood, Bart., and his predecessors, Mr Stewart and Dr Webster, as collectors of the Ministers' Widows' Fund. He lived in Turk's Close, a little to the west of the Luckenbooths, and died a bachelor, in March 1797. He was a particular friend to Lunardi. He belonged, at a former period, to the first volunteer regiment raised in Great Britain, viz. the Edinburgh Defensive Band.

The Sixth is a striking likeness of **JOHN SPOTTISWOOD, Esq.**, one of the magistrates of Edinburgh, a most respectable gentleman. He was at one time a dealer in Carron-wares in the Grassmarket, and afterwards in Adam Square, (South Bridge.) Kay has in his MS. preserved the following anecdote relative to him:—This Print had hardly appeared when the Bailie came up to the limner, and challenged him for publishing such a scandalous print, saying he ought to be horsewhipped, and adding that he ought rather to have paid a compliment to Lunardi, than to have classed him with Lord North the caddy. "I don't know," said Kay, "but Lord North is as good a man as he; but I should like to see the man who would horsewhip me."—"It is one of the horriest things on earth," replied the Bailie, "to put me on a level with a caddy."—"Oh! Bailie, are *you* there too?" exclaimed Kay, by way of interrogation. "Yes, sir," returned the magistrate, "you know I am there; I have a daughter only five years old, who points me out at first sight."—"She must be a smart girl," said the limner; "but if you please, Bailie, I shall do another print of you by yourself."—"I'd see you hanged first," answered our hero. "Oh! Bailie, Bailie!" said Kay, "I hope you are not angry."—"Angry! I'm shocking angry!" returned the provoked magistrate, stamping the ground with his foot, to the no small amusement of the spectators who happened to be looking at the prints in Kay's window, in the Parliament Square, at the time.

The Seventh, or extreme figure on the right, is **MYLES M'PHAIL**, better known by the name of **LORD NORTH, the Caddy**. This *sobriquet* was bestowed in consequence of his personal resemblance to Lord North, afterwards Earl of Guildford. M'Phail, besides his occupation as a caddy, kept a tavern in the High Street, and was much esteemed for his activity; he was also officer of the Caledonian Hunt. On the occasion of Lunardi's ascent from the Green of Heriot's Hospital, Lord North collected the money.

No. XXXIX.

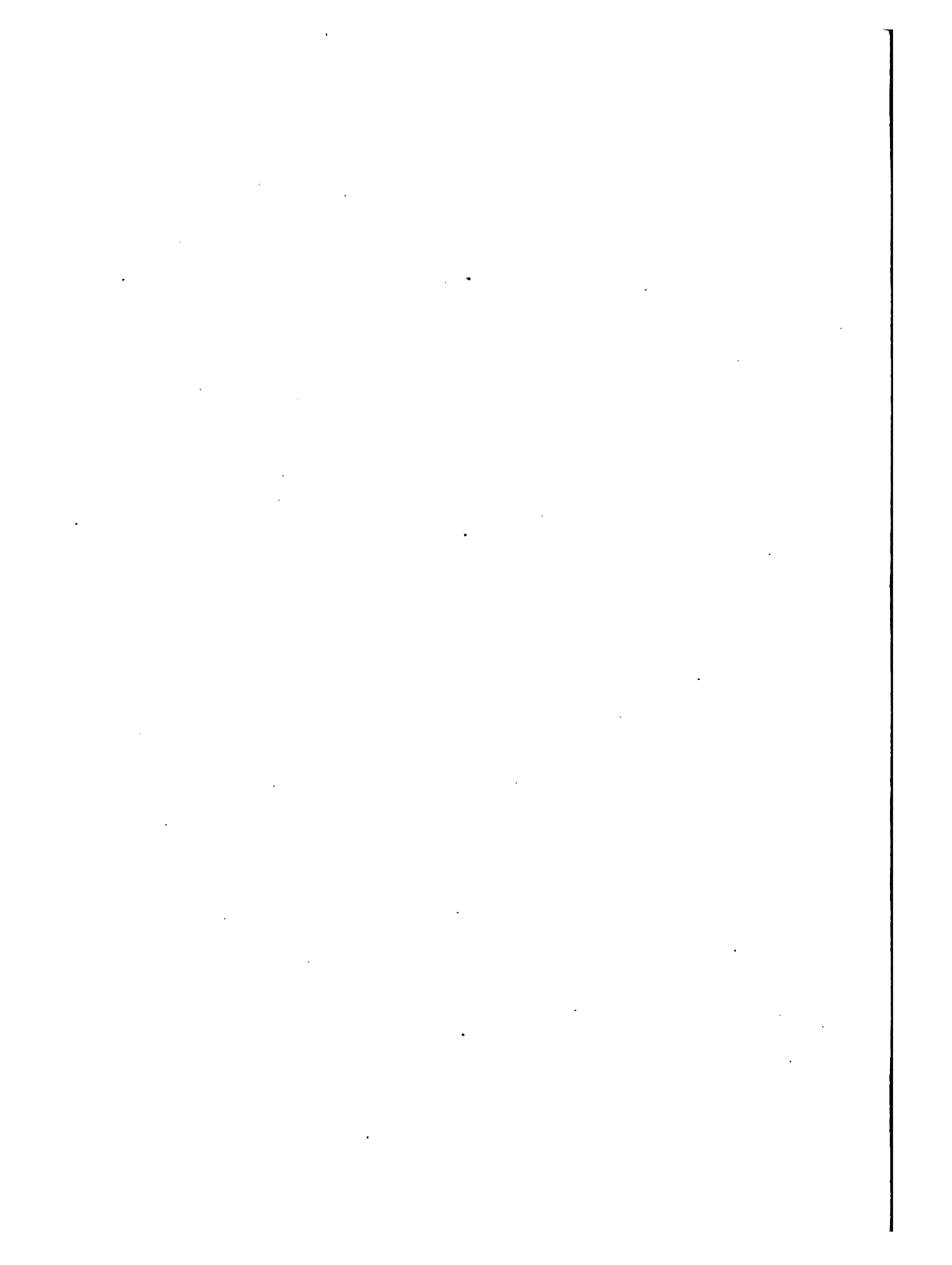
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE COLONEL LENNOX.

THIS nobleman was born in Scotland in 1764, and succeeded to the Dukedom of Richmond and Lennox in 1806. He is best known, however, as "Colonel Lennox," having incurred considerable notoriety as a duellist, by challenging and fighting with a prince of the blood-royal. At the time this affair of honour took place, Lennox was Captain of a company in the Coldstream Guards, of which regiment the late Duke of York was Colonel. The cause of quarrel originated on the part of the Duke, who reported, that at the club in D'Aubigny's, Colonel Lennox had submitted to certain expressions unworthy of a gentleman. On learning this the Colonel despatched a letter to the Duke, stating, that as neither he nor any member of the club recollected hearing such words addressed to him, he thought his Highness "ought to contradict the report as publicly as he had asserted it." The Duke replied that the words were spoken in his own presence, and therefore he could not be subject to mistake: he was only bound to maintain his own opinion that they ought to have been resented by a gentleman. The immediate consequence was a message to his Royal Highness desiring satisfaction. A meeting accordingly took place on Wimbledon Common on the 26th May 1789, Lord Rawdon acting as second to the Duke of York, and the Earl of Winchilsea (one of the Lords of the Bed-Chamber to the King,) as second to Colonel Lennox. Of this transaction these gentlemen published the following account:—

"The ground was measured at twelve paces, and both parties were to fire upon a signal agreed upon. The signal being given, Colonel Lennox fired, and the ball grazed his Royal Highness's curl. The Duke of York did not fire. Lord Rawdon then interfered and said, 'that he thought enough had been done.' Colonel Lennox observed 'That his Royal Highness had not fired.' Lord Rawdon said, 'It was not the Duke's intention to fire—his Royal Highness had come out upon Colonel Lennox's desire to give him satisfaction, and had no animosity against him.' Colonel Lennox pressed that the Duke of York should fire, which was declined upon a repetition of the reason. Lord Winchilsea then went up to the Duke of York, and expressed his hope that his Royal Highness could have no objection to say he considered Colonel Lennox as a man of honour and courage? His Royal Highness replied that he should say nothing; he had come out to give Colonel Lennox satisfaction, and did not mean to fire at him; if Colonel Lennox was not satisfied he might fire again. Colonel Lennox said he could not possibly fire again at the Duke, as his Royal Highness did not mean to fire at him! On this both parties left the ground.



del d. Picci 1789



The seconds think it proper to add, that both parties behaved with the utmost coolness and intrepidity.

“RAWDON.

“WINCHILSEA.

“Tuesday evening, May 26th.”

It is reported that her Majesty the Queen, who might have been supposed inclined to resent an attempt upon the life of her son, so far from appearing to do so, politely received the Colonel shortly afterwards at the Spanish ambassador's gala.

On the 28th Colonel Lennox found it necessary to solicit his Royal Highness, as Colonel of the Coldstream Guards, to permit a call of the officers to consider of “certain propositions touching his conduct and situation,” which the Duke at once agreed to. The opinion of this military convention was as follows:—“It is the opinion of his Majesty's Coldstream Regiment of Guards, that Colonel Lennox, subsequent to the 15th instant, has behaved with *courage*, but from the peculiarity of the circumstances, not with *judgment*.”

In consequence of this ambiguous decision, the Colonel and his friends deemed it proper for him to leave the Guards. He, accordingly, on the 16th of June, exchanged with Lord Strathaven of the 35th, which regiment was then stationed in Edinburgh Castle; previous to joining, however, Colonel Lennox had occasion to fight another duel, a pamphlet having been published by one Theophilus Swift, Esq., throwing reflections on the character of the Colonel. The latter immediately called on Mr Swift; a meeting was the consequence, on the morning of the 3d July, in a field near to the Uxbridge road—Mr Swift attended by Sir William Brown, and Colonel Lennox by Colonel Phipps. The principals took their stations at the distance of ten paces, when Lennox, being the injured party, was allowed to fire first. The ball took effect in the body of Mr Swift,* whose pistol went off without injury. Mr Swift soon recovered from the effects of the wound.

Colonel Lennox at length arrived in Edinburgh on the 21st of the month. In the evening the Castle was illuminated in honour of his joining the regiment, on which occasion he gave “an excellent entertainment to the officers, and ten guineas to the privates, to drink his health,” the officers also giving ten guineas for the same purpose. Shortly after, he visited Gordon Castle, where he was married to Lady Charlotte, eldest daughter of the Duke of Gordon, and niece to the celebrated Lady Wallace.

About this time the Incorporation of Goldsmiths in Edinburgh made the Colonel an honorary member of their body, and presented him with the free-

* This gentleman's father was nearly related to the celebrated Dean Swift, a life of whom he published. After the Colonel's succession to the Dukedom, and his appointment to the Lieutenancy of Ireland, in 1807, it occurred that Mr Swift was one of the party at a ball given at Dublin Castle. On being presented to the royal depute, Mr Swift humorously remarked, “This is a different ball from that your Highness favoured me with the last time we met.”

dom in a silver snuff-box. In October of the same year, he had the freedom of the city conferred upon him by the magistrates, at the same time with the Right Honourable the Earl of Hopetoun, and two brothers of that nobleman, John and Alexander Hope.

During the Colonel's stay in Edinburgh, Mr Kay mentions that he was much beloved by all who knew him. He adds, "The Colonel is also a great player at cricket, a game of which he was very fond, and at which he used to amuse himself with the common soldiers—a degree of condescension, which, together with the drink-money he gave them on such occasions, made them all very fond of him."

Colonel Lennox served afterwards in the Leeward Islands, and arrived in St Domingo from Martinique with eight flank companies of foot, on the 8th June 1794, just at the breaking out of that pestilential disease, the yellow fever, to which forty officers and six hundred rank and file fell victims in two months."

In 1795 he was appointed aid-de-camp to the King, with the rank of Colonel in the Army, and had the rank of Major-General conferred upon him in 1798. In 1800 he was made Colonel-Commandant of the 35th foot, and farther promoted to be Colonel of the same regiment in May 1803. He attained the rank of Lieutenant-General in 1805.

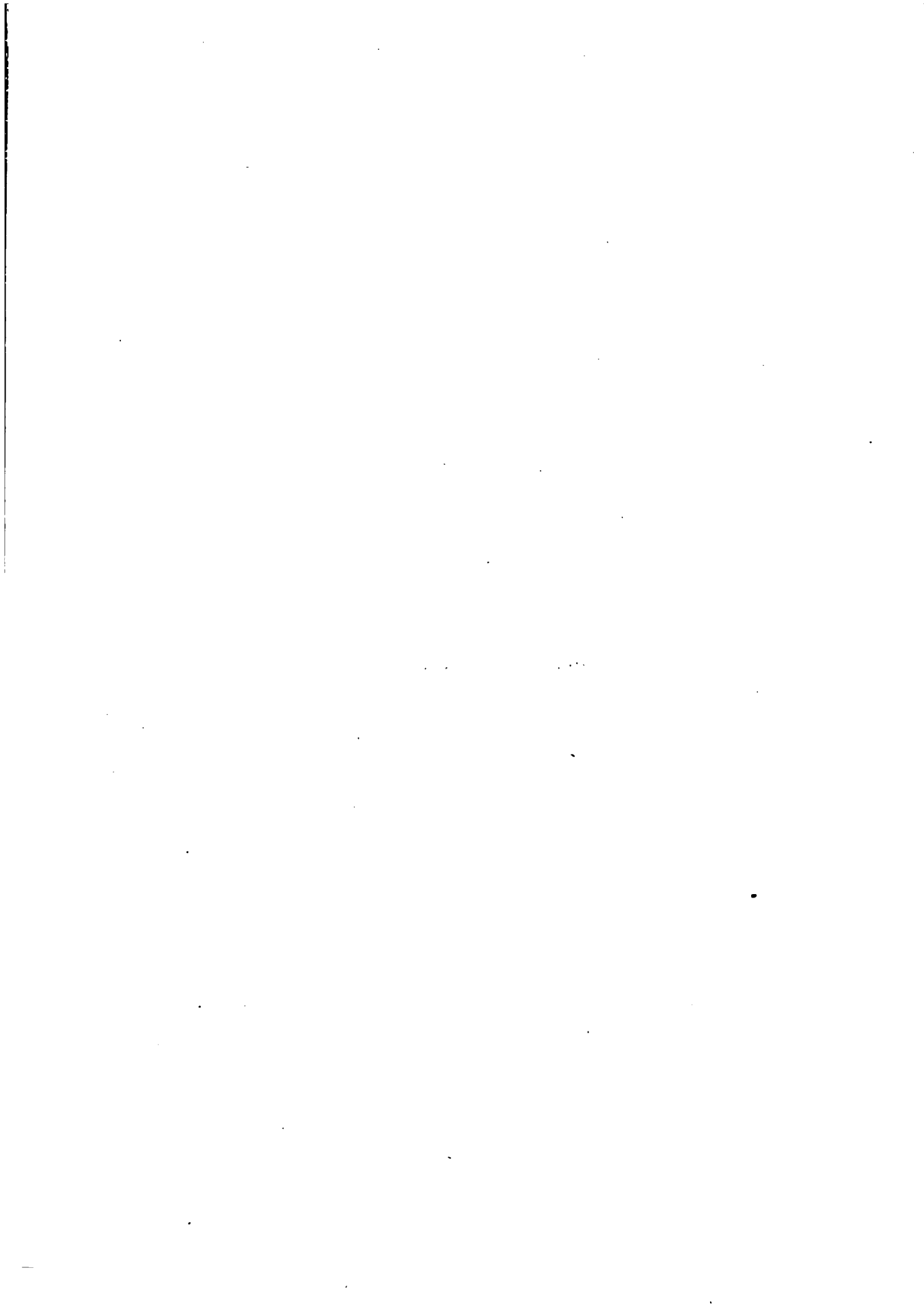
At the general election in 1790, he was returned Member of Parliament for the county of Sussex; at the next election, six years afterwards, he was rechosen, and again in 1802 and 1806, immediately after which, on the death of his uncle, he succeeded to the Dukedom of Richmond and Lennox. On the first of April 1807, his grace was sworn a Privy Councillor, and appointed Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. He was afterwards made Governor of Canada, where he died in 1819, and was succeeded in his titles by his son Charles,—the second of a family of fourteen, the eldest being a daughter.

No. XL.

COLONEL HUNTER.

THIS Gentleman was much above the ordinary height, and exceedingly corpulent. He was brother of Sir James Hunter Blair, Baronet. It is said that when the Colonel accompanied his regiment to the West Indies—a climate proverbially fatal to Europeans—upon his arrival there, while superintending the disembarkation of the regimental stores, he was much annoyed by a person walking round and round him, and staring uncommonly at him. Surprised at this singular surveillance, the Colonel asked what he wanted, when the fellow very *gravely* replied, "I am just wondering, sir, if I have a coffin large enough for you." This hint was not lost; the Colonel took the earliest opportunity of disappointing the speculative undertaker, by returning to his native country.









No. XLI.

THE REV. WILLIAM ROBERTSON, D.D.,

AUTHOR OF THE "HISTORY OF SCOTLAND," AND "CHARLES V."

THIS eminent divine resided within the old College, at the south gate, nearly on the spot where the centre of the library now is. He was born in the year 1721, in the manse of Borthwick, of which parish his father, also called William, was then minister, but who was afterwards presented to the Old Greyfriars' Church, Edinburgh. His mother was Eleanor, daughter of David Pitcairn, Esq. of Dreghorn; by the father's side he was descended from the Robertsons of Gladney in Fife, a branch of the ancient house of Strowan. Dr Robertson received the first rudiments of his education at Dalkeith, under Mr Leslie; and, in 1733, when his father removed to Edinburgh, he commenced his course of academical study, which he completed at the University of Edinburgh in 1741. In the same year he was licensed to preach by the Presbytery of Dalkeith; and in 1743 was, by the Earl of Hopetoun, presented to the living of Gladsmuir in East Lothian. Soon after this, his father and mother died within a few hours of each other, when six sisters,* and a younger brother,† were left almost wholly dependent on him. He immediately took them home to his humble residence at Gladsmuir, where his stipend amounted to little more than L.60 a-year, and devoted his leisure hours to the superintendence of their education. After seeing them all respectably settled in the world, he married, in 1751, his cousin Mary, daughter of the Rev. Mr Nisbet, one of the ministers of Edinburgh.

In the Rebellion of 1745, when Edinburgh was threatened by the Highlanders, he hastened into the city, and joined a corps of Volunteers raised for its defence; and when it was resolved to deliver up the city without resistance, he, with a small band, tendered his assistance to General Cope, who lay with the royal army at Haddington—an offer which the General (fortunately for the Doctor and his party) declined. He then returned to the sacred duties of his parish, where he was much beloved; and soon afterwards began to display his talents in the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, where he became the object of universal attention and applause. It was about this time that Dr Robertson so ably defended his friend Mr Home, the author of the tragedy of *Douglas*, from the proceedings adopted against him in the clerical courts.

The first publication of Dr Robertson was a sermon, which was preached by him before the Society for propagating Christian Knowledge, in 1755; and to it may be attributed the unanimity of his call to the charge of Lady Yester's Church in Edinburgh, to which he was translated in 1758. In February

* One of his sisters, Mrs Syme, who lived at the head of the Cowgate, was the grandmother of Lord Brougham and Vaux.

† Mr Patrick Robertson, who was bred a jeweller, and was very successful in business in Edinburgh.



N. 111

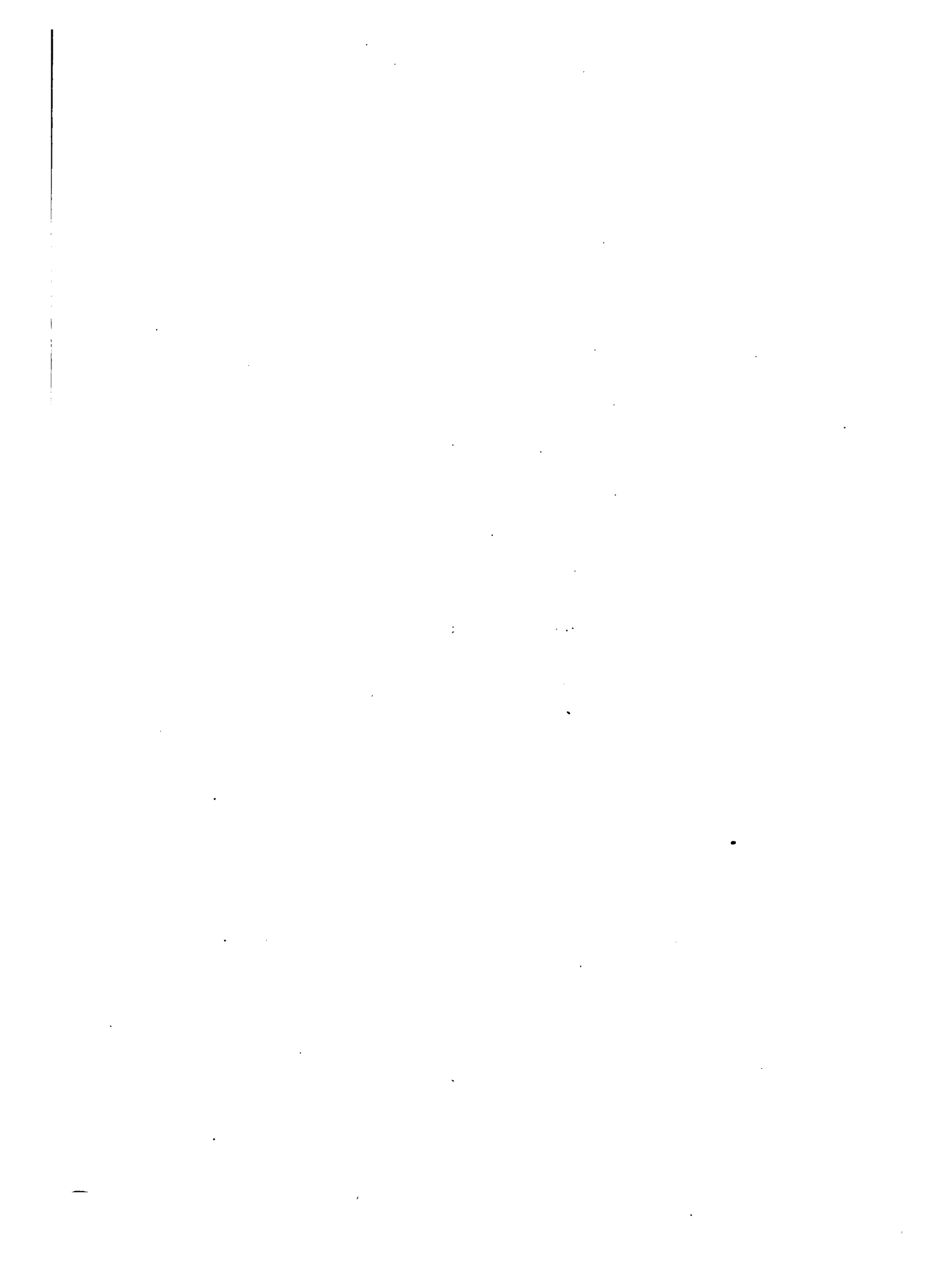
THE REV. WILLIAM ROBERTSON, D.D.

NOTICE OF THE HISTORY OF SCOTLAND, AND OF THE REVOLUTION

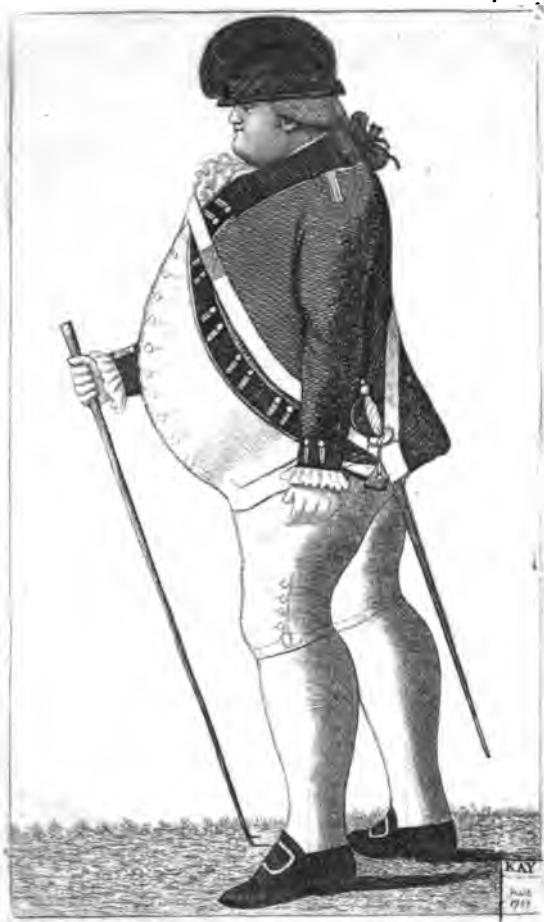
THIS eminent divine resided within the old College in the small year, 1741, in the year when the seat of the Bishop was in the city of Edinburgh, in the house of Dalrymple, in which year he was elected to the office of Minister, but was afterwards removed to the Church of St. Andrew, Edinburgh. His mother was Elizabeth, daughter of John Dalrymple, Esq. of Dalrymple, by the father's side he was descended from the Dalrymples of Dalrymple in Fife, a branch of the ancient house of Stewart. Dr. Robertson received the first rudiments of his education at Dalrymple, under Mr. Laidlaw, and in 1743, when his father removed to Edinburgh, he commenced his course of academic study which he continued at the University of Edinburgh in 1744. In the same year he was licensed to preach by the Presbytery of Dalrymple, and in 1745 was by the Earl of Hume, presented to the living of Gladsburn in East Lothian. Soon after this his father and mother died within a few hours of each other, when six sisters* and a younger brother,† were left almost wholly dependent on him. He immediately took them home to his humble residence at Dalrymple, where his expense amounted to little more than L. 60 a year, and devoted his leisure hours to the superintendance of their education. After seeing them all respectably settled in the world he married in 1751, his cousin Mary, daughter of the Rev. Mr. Nisbet, one of the ministers of Edinburgh.

In the Rebellion of 1745, when Edinburgh was threatened by the Highlanders he hastened into the city, and joined a corps of Volunteers raised for its defence; and when it was resolved to deliver up the city without resistance he, with a small band, rendered his assistance to General Cope, who lay with the royal army at Haddington—an offer which the General (fortunately for the Doctor and his party) declined. He then returned to the sacred duties of his parish, where he was much beloved; and soon afterwards began to display his talents in the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, where he became the object of universal attention and applause. It was about this time that Dr. Robertson so ably defended his friend Mr. Home, the author of the tragedy of Douglas, from the proceedings adopted against him in the clerical courts.

The first sermon of Dr. Robertson was a sermon, which was preached by him on the subject of propagating Christian Knowledge, in 1755; and to it succeeded his call to the charge of Lady Yester's Church, which was translated in 1758. In February 1760, when the late Duke of Argyll, was the grandfather of Lord Argyll, and was very successful in business in Edinburgh.







might have ranked with the first names in the British Senate. He retired from the business of the Church Courts in 1780, but still continued his pastoral duties, preaching when his health permitted, till within a few months of his death, which took place at Grange House, near Edinburgh, on the 11th June 1793.

His colleague Dr John Erskine, in a sermon preached after his death, said, "Few minds were naturally so large and capacious as Dr Robertson's, or stored by study, experience, and observation, with so rich furniture. His imagination was correct, his judgment sound, his memory tenacious, his temper agreeable, his knowledge extensive, and his acquaintance with the world and the heart of man very remarkable."

Dr Robertson is said to have excited the enmity of Dr Gilbert Stuart, in consequence of his assumed opposition to the appointment of that clever, but vindictive personage, to one of the Law chairs in the University. Whether the Principal really interfered is not certain, but Stuart believed he had done so, and that was quite sufficient to induce him to take every means in his power to annoy his imagined enemy. The "View of Society in Europe," is in direct opposition to the luminous introduction to Dr Robertson's "History of Charles V.," and the "History of Scotland, from the Reformation to the Death of Queen Mary," is an undisguised and virulent hypercritical attack on the "History of Scotland" by the same eminent writer, and does no great credit to the talents of Dr Stuart. The Empress Catherine of Russia was so delighted with Dr Robertson's works, that she presented him with a handsome gold enamelled snuff-box, richly set with diamonds, through Dr Rogerson, which is still in possession of the family.

Dr Robertson left three sons and two daughters. The eldest son, a Lord of Session, retired some years ago from the Bench; he lived in Charlotte Square, and died only last year. The next son, Lieutenant-General James, who distinguished himself under Lord Cornwallis, still lives at Canaan Bank, near Edinburgh. The third son was also in the army, but, having married the heiress of Kinloch-Moidart, now resides almost entirely on his estate. The eldest daughter married Patrick Brydone, Esq. of Lennel House, author of a "Tour through Sicily and Malta," one of whose daughters became Countess of Minto; and another, the wife of Admiral Sir Charles Adam, K.B. The youngest daughter married John Russell, Esq., Writer to the Signet.

No. XLIII.

QUARTERMASTER TAYLOR.

THIS gentleman was an officer in the 7th Regiment of Foot, and served under General Elliot, afterwards Lord Heathfield, during the memorable siege of Gibraltar by the Spaniards. While in Edinburgh, during the year 1788, his extreme corpulency rendered him very conspicuous, and induced Mr Kay to make him the subject of the present etching. It is said that the night before his death he was offered L.400 for his commission, which he refused.

No. XLIV.

COCK-FIGHTING MATCH

BETWEEN THE COUNTIES OF LANARK AND HADDINGTON.

THIS affair was decided in the unfinished kitchen of the Assembly Rooms, in 1785; on which occasion the gentlemen cock-fighters of the county of East Lothian were the victors. Among the audience will be recognised likenesses of the principal individuals of this fancy at the time. Kay, in his MS. notes, particularly points out those of Sir James Baird of Newbyth, William Hamilton, Esq. of Wishaw, (afterwards Lord Belhaven,) — MacLeod, Esq. of Drimin, Lord North the caddy, the noted Deacon Brodie, and several other eminent cockers. The two figures in the pit represent the persons employed by the different parties; the one was an Edinburgh butcher, the other an Englishman.

In allusion to this contest Kay observes, "It cannot but appear surprising that noblemen and gentlemen, who upon any other occasion will hardly show the smallest degree of condescension to their inferiors, will, in the prosecution of this barbarous amusement, demean themselves so far as to associate with the very lowest characters in society."

Cock-fighting prevailed to a great extent among the Romans, who most likely adopted it among other things from the Greeks, with this addition, that they used quails as well as the common gamecock. With the Romans cock-fighting is presumed to have been introduced into Britain, although the first notice we have of it is by Fitz-Stephen, in his Life of the famous Thomas a-Becket, in the reign of Henry II. There were several enactments made against the practice in the reigns of Edward III. and Henry VIII., but it is well known that the cock-pit at Whitehall was erected by royalty itself, for the more magnificent celebration of the sport: it was again prohibited during the Protectorship of Cromwell in 1654, and afterwards by the act 25th Geo. III. Notwithstanding the efforts made to put it down, this disreputable amusement continued in all parts of England to be practised with the utmost wantonness almost to the present time.

In Scotland, cock-fighting was for many years an ordinary recreation. In 1705 William Machrie, fencing-master in Edinburgh, published "An Essay upon the Royal Recreation and Art of Cocking. Edinburgh, printed by James Watson in Craig's Closs. Sold by Mr Robert Freebairn in the Parliament Closs, 1705." 12mo. This tract, which is now exceedingly scarce, is dedicated to the nobility and gentry of Scotland, who are told that "the sport of cock-fighting is improv'd to a great height; 'tis as much an art as managing of horses for races or for the field of battle; and tho' it has been in vogue over all Europe, yet 'twas never esteem'd nor practis'd but by the nobility and gentry. It was kept up only by people of rank, and never sunk down to the hands of the commonality, where the art of managing this fierce and warlike bird had

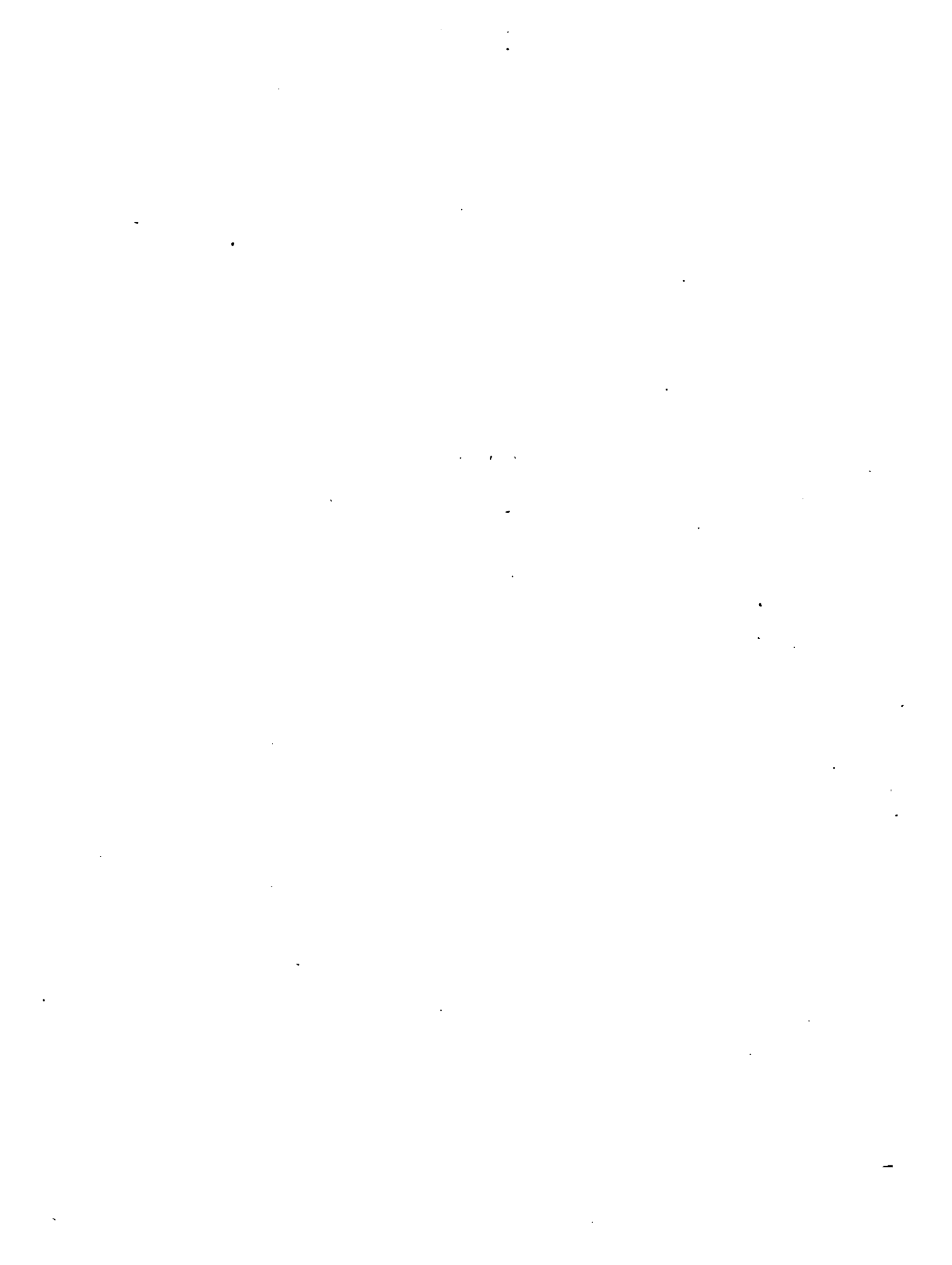


*Thus we poor Cocks, exert our Skill & Bravery
For idle Gulls, and Kites, that trade in Knavery*

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O' Drouth



H. 1878

been either lost or slighted." Some verses, signed "T. C.," are prefixed, from which we learn that

"The sword has always flourish'd, and the bow,
So long neglected, claims its birthright now,
And our *cock-matches* owe their rise to you."

From which it may be inferred that this species of amusement had been introduced into Scotland by Machrie, who terms it "a very Innocent, Noble, and highly *Heroick* Game!"

The style of this curious publication is highly inflated, and the attempt to confer dignity upon this wretched and cruel sport is ludicrous enough. After very minute researches into the antiquity of the "royal recreation," the history of the cock and its habits, the proper mode of treatment, &c., the author concludes—"I am not ashamed to declare to the world that I have a special veneration and esteem for those gentlemen within and about this city who have entered on society for propagating and establishing the royal recreation of cocking, (in order to which, they have already erected a Cockpit in the Links of Leith,) and I earnestly wish that their generous and laudable example may be imitated to that degree, that (in cock-war) village may be engaged against village, city against city, kingdom against kingdom—nay, the father against the son, until all the wars in Europe, wherein so much Christian blood is spilt, be turned into that of the innocent pastime of Cocking."

From the date of Machrie's work until recently, the practice of cock-fighting seems to have been pretty general, especially in Edinburgh, where a regular cock-pit was erected, and liberally supported for many years. On turning over the files of the Edinburgh journals, the names of gentlemen still alive are to be found, who now, it is to be presumed, would not be disposed to consider their former "cocking" propensities with much complacency. An attempt was made two or three years since to revive the "royal recreation" in a certain city in the west, but it was very properly put down by the magistracy.

No. XLV.

JAMES DONALDSON.

THIS Print represents a half-witted journeyman baker, whom Kay has thought worthy of immortality, on account of his enormous strength.

Many instances of this simpleton's extraordinary physical powers are remembered: Amongst these is the fact of his having frequently, for the amusement of himself and the butchers, knocked down a strong bull-calf with one blow of his prodigious fist. His good nature, however, was often imposed upon by fools as great as himself, who used to load him with burdens sufficient for any three ordinary men.

The Print has been entitled "O Drouth!" by the limner, being a far-fetched allusion to Jamie's thirsty employment.

No. XLVI.

MR ALEXANDER THOMSON,

AND

MISS CRAWFORD.

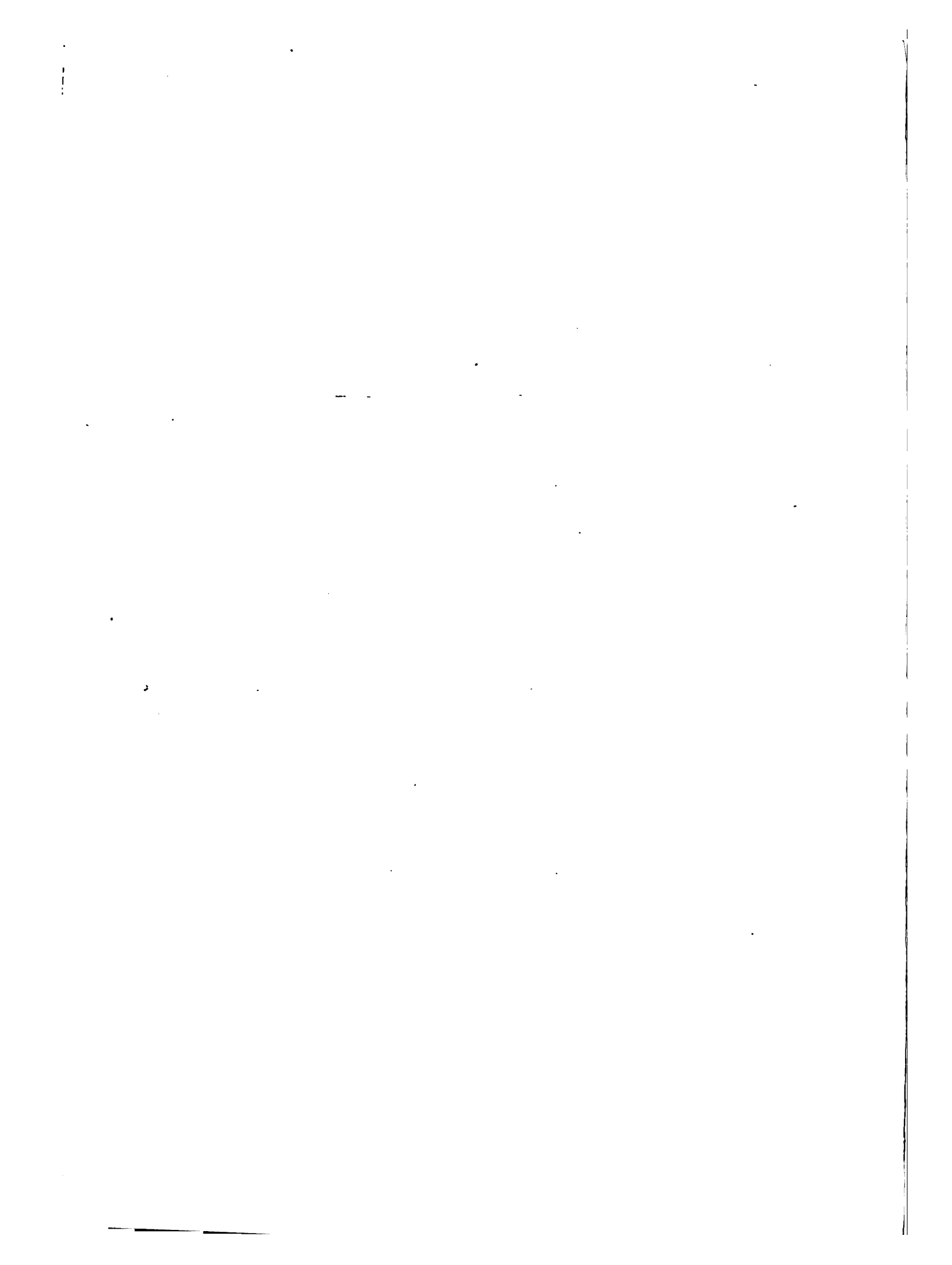
THOSE who recollect MR THOMSON, affirm this representation of him to be extremely faithful. He was very remarkable for the length of his arms, which, while walking, he kept dangling by his side, as represented in the Print. He carried on business as a grocer in a shop nearly opposite the Tron Church, where, by persevering industry and fair dealing, he is said to have amassed a considerable fortune; from which circumstance, together with his long and honourable career, he obtained the title of the "Prince of Grocers." Not much in accordance, however, with this high-sounding title, he was known also by the less dignified appellation of "Farthing Sandy," owing to his having at one period issued a great number of brass farthings, for the better adjustment of accounts with his numerous customers. His house was at the Abbey-Hill.

Thomson was a widower of long standing; but having grown in riches as well as in years, it appears strange fantasies of greatness began to flit before his imagination. He used to compare himself with the other grocers as a large mastiff dog, placed in the centre of a number of little terriers. With a view to his aggrandizement, he sought to connect himself by marriage with some family of aristocratic blood; and with this "intention full resolved," he is represented in the Print as "casting an eye" at Miss Crawford—a lady somewhat whimsical, if not altogether fantastical, in her dress and manners. The scene is limned by Mr Kay as witnessed on the Calton-Hill, the day on which Mr Tytler's "fire-balloon" ascended from the Abbey grounds. The "Prince of Grocers," however, was not successful in his pursuit, and ultimately became, among the ladies, an object of ridicule, being known by the feminine *sobriquet* of "Ruffles," from a practice he had of hiding his long fingers in his sleeve appendages. Had the widower aimed at less lofty game, there would have been no doubt of success; his "old brass would have bought a new pan."

Notwithstanding his reputed riches, it is said that Thomson left a mere trifle at his death, having been nearly ruined by a son, who afterwards went to Jamaica, where it is believed he died a mendicant.

MISS CRAWFORD, the object of the grocer's ambition, was the daughter of Sir Hew Crawford of Jordanhill, and resided at the time at a place called Redbraes, Bonnington Road. She continued "deaf as Ailsa Craig" to the wooing of old Ruffles, preferring a life of single blessedness, although it









Retaliation; or the Custodian Caught

was said she afterwards formed a "*mesalliance*" with John (commonly called Jack) Fortune, a surgeon, who went abroad, (brother of Matthew Fortune, who kept the Tontine, Prince's Street)—both sons of old Fortune who kept the noted tavern in the High Street, the resort of the higher ranks in Scotland fifty years ago;* but Mrs Fortune was a younger sister.

Sir Hew's family originally consisted of fifteen, several of whom died when young. The eldest daughter, Miss Mary, was married in 1775 to General Fletcher of Saltoun (then Campbell of Boquhan,) and afterwards to Colonel John Hamilton of Bardowie, in Stirlingshire; and the second, Lucken, was married to General Gordon Cuming of Pitlurg, Aberdeenshire, by whom she had ten children.

Mr Kay mentions that the publication of this Print created great excitement at the time, (1784,) and was the cause of several articles being written *pro* and *con* in the periodicals of the day. Captain Crawford (brother to the lady) was very much irritated, and threatened to cudgel the limner, at the same time "daring him at his peril to pencil any lady ever after." As might have been expected, this threat had a very contrary effect—being immediately followed by an alteration of the Plate, making the head-dress of Miss Crawford a little more ridiculous, and also by the caricature of "RETALIATION; OR THE CUDGELLER CAUGHT."

No XLVII.

RETALIATION; OR THE CUDGELLER CAUGHT,

REPRESENTS the gallant and high-minded Captain Crawford, who was then young, in the hands of a brawny porter, while his sister and her companion, Miss Hay of Montblair, who then resided with her mother in Haddington's Entry, Canongate, are lustily calling out for help. This caricature, however, is supposed to have been merely a flight of fancy, without any foundation in fact. Captain Crawford, afterwards Sir Hew, was a very handsome man. He married a Miss Johnston, of the county of Leitrim, in Ireland, by whom he had two sons and three daughters.

* "On the 10th of October 1775, a wager was determined at Fortune's tavern, Edinburgh, on the quality of the beef of two bullocks—one fed by the Duke of Buccleuch, the other by John Lumsdaine of Blanairn, Esq. A sirloin of each was roasted; and it took two men to carry each to the table. The wager was determined in favour of the Duke. Besides his Grace and Mr Lumsdaine, there were a goodly number of other noblemen, gentlemen, clergy, &c., at dinner—twenty-one in number—all dressed in the manufactures of Scotland." The Duke of Buccleuch is well known to have been "a great encourager of Scotch manufactures," which were at that time in their infancy.—The Earl of Hopetoun, as Commissioner to the General Assembly, used to hold state in Fortune's tavern; and on election occasions the Scottish Peers frequently terminated the proceedings of the day by dining there. The premises were at an earlier period the town residence of the Earls of Eglintoun.

No XLVIII.

HENRY VISCOUNT MELVILLE,

AND

THE HON. ROBERT DUNDAS OF ARNISTON,

LORD CHIEF BARON OF THE COURT OF EXCHEQUER.

THE first figure in this Print represents the Right Honourable HENRY DUNDAS, Viscount Melville and Baron Dunira.

Mr Dundas was second son of Robert Dundas of Arniston, Lord President of the Court of Session,* by Anne, daughter of Sir William Gordon of Invergordon, his lordship's second wife, and was born on the 28th April 1742.

After completing his education at the University of Edinburgh with the usual course of legal study, he was admitted a Member of the Faculty of Advocates in the year 1763.

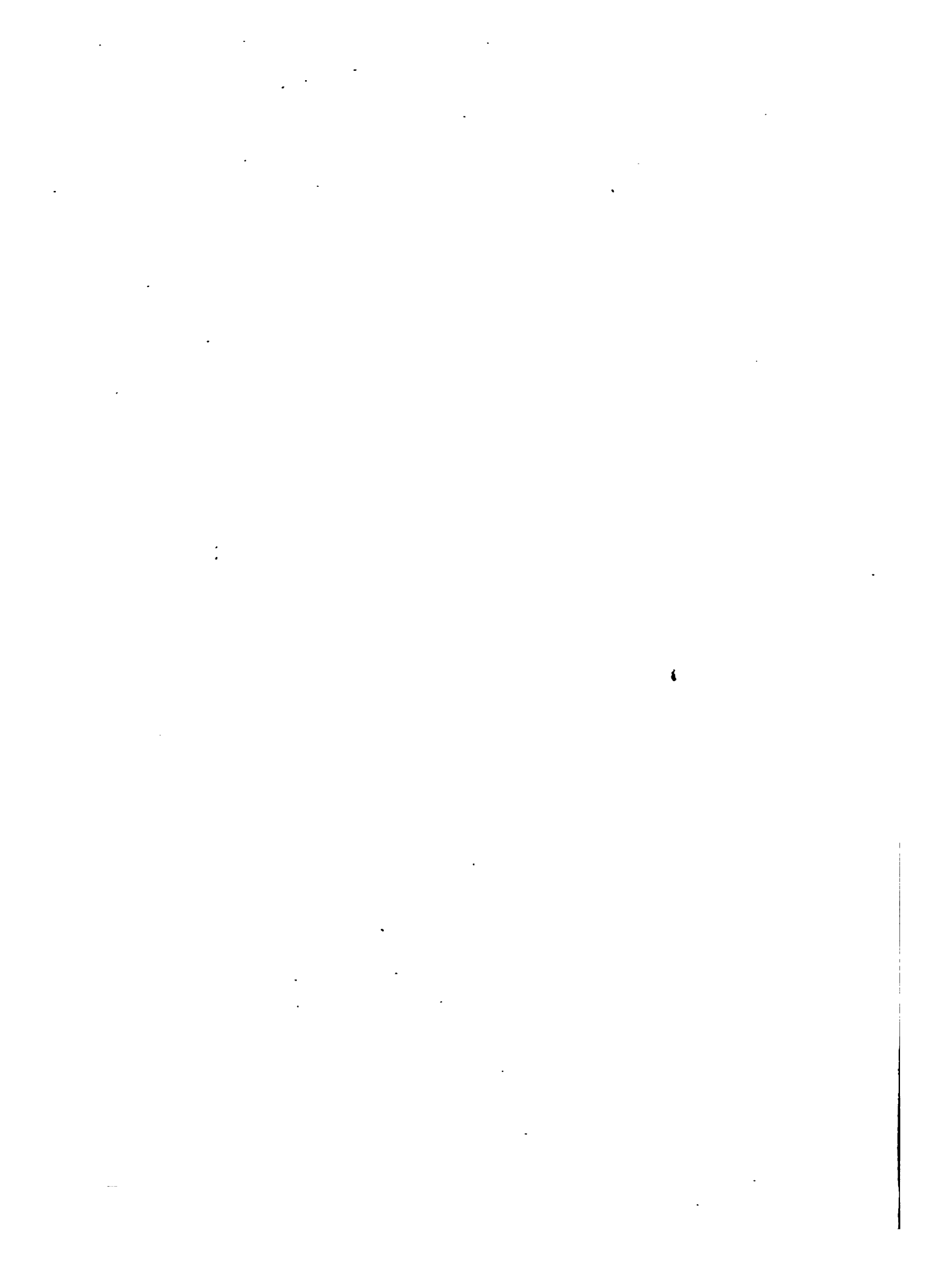
At this period it has been said, that, after paying the expense of his education and admission to the Faculty, Mr Dundas had just sixty pounds remaining of his patrimony.

Mr Dundas began his splendid public career in the comparatively humble capacity of an assessor to the Magistrates of Edinburgh. The office of one of his Majesty's Depute-Advocates was then conferred upon him; and subsequently he was appointed Solicitor-General for Scotland.

To these situations he recommended himself by his superior talents, which were early displayed, and which obtained for him the highest consideration of the Bench and Bar. But the ambition of Mr Dundas was directed to higher objects than were to be attained even by the most brilliant success at the Scotch bar, where the only honour that would follow the most successful exertion of talent, would be a seat on the bench. He accordingly resolved to try his fortunes in the sister kingdom, and with this view, in the year 1774, successfully contested the county of Mid-Lothian with the Ministerial candidate. He, however, afterwards joined the party then in power—became a zealous and able supporter of Lord North's Administration—and was, as a reward for his services, appointed Lord Advocate of Scotland in 1775. Two years afterwards, he obtained the appointment of Keeper of his Majesty's Signet for Scotland.

* To prevent any misconception, it may be right to mention that there were two Presidents of the Court of Session bearing the name of Robert Dundas. The first, who was born on the 9th December 1685, and died on the 26th August 1753, was the father of Lord Viscount Melville. The second, who was born on the 18th July 1713, and died, in the seventy-fifth year of his age, on the 13th December 1787, was the eldest son of the preceding judge by his first marriage with Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Watson Esq. of Muirhouse, and in this way was the "half-brother" (to use a Scotchism) of Lord Melville.





Mr Dundas had now obtained a high reputation as a statesman ; and from his knowledge of public business, and intimate acquaintance with the condition of the country, was considered so desirable an auxiliary by those in power, that no change of Ministry seriously interfered with his advancement, every new Administration being equally anxious with its predecessors to secure his services. Thus, on the promotion of Lord Shelburne to the premiership, (1782,) Mr Dundas was appointed Treasurer of the Navy. This situation, however, he resigned on the formation of the celebrated Coalition Administration. He was again restored to office by Mr Pitt, of whom he was latterly one of the steadiest and ablest supporters.

During this interval, Mr Dundas had rendered himself remarkable in Parliament for his intimate acquaintance with the affairs of India, and was twice appointed chairman of committees appointed for the purpose of legislating for this immense territory. But it was as Treasurer of the Navy that Mr Dundas's services were of the greatest benefit to his country. In this department he effected a total reformation ; substituting order and economy for perplexity and profusion—securing greater promptitude in the payment of the seamen's wages—carrying through Parliament various measures calculated to improve their condition and to increase their comforts—and removing a fruitful source of fraud against the families of sailors, by procuring an act for preventing the successful use of forged instruments. He it was, also, who introduced the bill which empowers seamen to make over their half-pay to their wives and families. Such were some of the benevolent and judicious improvements which Mr Dundas introduced. He held the office of Treasurer of the Navy till 1800. In the Session of 1784, Mr Dundas introduced a bill for restoring the estates forfeited on account of the Rebellion of 1745—a measure not less remarkable for its policy than for its liberal and generous spirit.

In 1791, Mr Dundas was appointed Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department, having been previously nominated President of the Board of Control.

Amongst the public measures that originated with Mr Dundas about this period of his career, was the formation of the Fencible regiments, the Supplementary Militia, the Volunteer Corps, and the Provisional Cavalry. With him also originated the improved system of distributing the army throughout the country in barracks and garrisons. The singular ability and judgment which marked Mr Dundas's superintendence on military affairs, suggested the propriety of appointing him Secretary of State for the War Department, and he was nominated to this office accordingly, in the year 1794. In 1800, he was appointed Keeper of the Privy Seal of Scotland, and his son succeeded him as Keeper of the Signet. He held the offices of Secretary of State, and President of the Board of Control, till his resignation along with Mr Pitt in 1801.

While in the House of Commons, Mr Dundas represented first the county, and afterwards the city, of Edinburgh. For the former he sat from 1774 till

1787, and for the latter from 1787 till 1802, when he was elevated to the Peerage by patent dated December 21st of that year, by the title of Viscount Melville of Melville, in the county of Edinburgh, and Baron Dunira, in the county of Perth.

Neither the important services which Lord Melville had rendered his country, nor his own well-known disinterested and generous nature, could protect him from a prosecution—persecution we had nearly said—instituted ostensibly on the grounds of public justice, but which was carried on with a spirit of bitterness, that, to say the least of it, was calculated to create serious doubts as to the purity of the motives of those with whom it originated.

On the 8th of April 1805, his lordship, who had previously held for a short time the appointment of First Lord of the Treasury, was accused in the House of Commons, by Mr Whitbread, of having misapplied or misdirected certain sums of public money, with a view to his own private advantage and emolument. Articles of impeachment having been preferred, his lordship was brought to trial before his Peers in Westminster Hall, on the 29th of April 1806. The result was a triumphant acquittal (12th June following) from all the charges. In truth, the utmost extent of any blame imputable to him was, that he had placed too much confidence in some of the subordinates in his office.

After his acquittal, Lord Melville was restored to his place in the Privy Council, from which he had been removed pending his trial, but he did not again take office. From this period he lived chiefly in retirement, participating only occasionally in the debates of the House of Lords.

His lordship died very unexpectedly in the house of his nephew, Lord Chief Baron Dundas, in George Square, on the 29th May 1811; having come to Edinburgh, it is believed, to attend the funeral of his old friend Lord President Blair, who had died suddenly a few days before, and was at the moment lying in the house adjoining that in which Lord Melville expired.

His lordship was distinguished in his public life by a singular capacity for business, by unwearied diligence in the discharge of his numerous and important duties, and, as a speaker, by the force and acuteness of his reasoning. In private life his manners were affable and unaffected, his disposition amiable and affectionate. A striking instance of the kindness of his nature is to be found in the fact, that to the latest period of his life, whenever he came to Edinburgh, he made a point of visiting all the old ladies with whom he had been acquainted in his early days, patiently and perseveringly climbing, for this purpose, some of the most formidable turnpike-stairs in the Old Town. In his person he was tall and well-formed, while his countenance was expressive of high intellectual endowments.

The city of Edinburgh contains two public monuments to Lord Melville's memory. The one a marble statue by Chantrey, which stands in the large hall of the Parliament House; the other a handsome column, one hundred and thirty-five feet high, situated in the centre of St Andrew's Square. This noble pillar is surmounted by a statue of his lordship, fifteen feet in height.

Lord Melville married first, Elizabeth, daughter of David Rannie, Esq., of Melville Castle, and by her had one son (the present Viscount) and three daughters. This marriage having been dissolved in 1793, he married, secondly, Jane, sister to James Hope, third Earl of Hopetoun, but by her (who remarried, in 1814, Thomas Lord Wallace) he had no issue.

The second figure represents the Right Hon. ROBERT DUNDAS of Arniston, Lord Chief Baron of the Court of Exchequer, in conversation with his uncle, who was also his father-in-law.

Mr Dundas was eldest son of the second Lord President Dundas, and was born on the 6th of June 1758. He was educated for the legal profession, and became a member of the Faculty of Advocates in the year 1779; immediately after which, he was appointed Procurator for the Church of Scotland.

On the promotion of Sir Islay Campbell to the office of Lord Advocate, Mr Dundas, then a very young man, succeeded him as Solicitor-General; and on the elevation of the former to the Presidency, the latter was appointed to supply his place as Lord Advocate, being then only in the 31st year of his age.

This office he held for twelve years, during which time he sat in Parliament as member for the county of Edinburgh. On the resignation of Chief Baron Montgomery, in the year 1801, he was appointed his successor. His lordship held this office till within a short time of his death, which happened at Arniston on the 17th June 1819, in the sixty-second year of his age.*

The excellencies which marked the character of his lordship were many, and all of the most amiable and endearing kind. In manner, he was mild and affable; in disposition, humane and generous; and in principle, singularly tolerant and liberal—qualities which gained him universal esteem.

As presiding judge of the Court of Exchequer, he on every occasion evinced a desire to soften the rigour of the law when a legitimate opportunity presented itself for doing so. If it appeared to his lordship that an offender had erred unknowingly, or from inadvertency, he invariably interposed his good offices to mitigate the sentence. By the constitution of this court it was assumed that the king could not be subjected in expenses: thus when a party was acquitted—no unfrequent occurrence—he had to bear his own costs, which were always very considerable—but the Lord Chief Baron, whenever he thought that the party had been unjustly accused, invariably recommended to Government that he should be repaid what he had expended, and his recommendations were uniformly attended to.

“It was in private life, however,” says his biographer, “and within the circle of his own family and friends, that the virtues of this excellent man were chiefly conspicuous, and that his loss was most severely felt. Of him it may be said, as was most emphatically said of one of his brethren on the bench, he died, leaving no good man his enemy, and attended with that sincere regret which only those can hope for who have occupied the like important stations, and acquitted themselves as well.”

* At this period his lordship resided in St John's Street, Canongate.

No. XLIX.

BAILIE JAMES DICKSON

AND

BAILIE JAMES TORRY.

THE first of these city dignitaries, MR JAMES DICKSON, was for a long time a bookseller and stationer in Edinburgh. His shop was on the west side of the front of the Royal Exchange entry, and was much frequented by clerical gentlemen, Mr Dickson himself having been a licentiate of the Presbytery of Edinburgh. In early life, like many others of our "Scottish probationers," he was glad to shelter himself under the wing of a patron, by undertaking to perform the duties of preceptor to the family of James Kerr, Esq. of Boughtrigg,* jeweller, who represented the city of Edinburgh in Parliament from 1747 to 1754, with a very small salary; but having a counterbalancing equivalent in the promise of the first church vacancy that Mr Kerr could procure for him. The death of this gentleman, however, (in 1765,) entirely destroyed the young probationer's hopes. He therefore bethought himself of a lay profession, and commenced business as a bookseller, which he carried on with very considerable success. Mr Dickson was elected a member of Town Council, as kirk treasurer, in 1774; and from that period till 1786, we find his name repeatedly mentioned in the list of "Magistrates and Town Council of Edinburgh," as well as in the annals of the "Chamber of Commerce." Bailie Dickson was married to a sister of the famous Admiral Greig. † None of his

* Mr Kerr was married to a daughter of Lord Charles Kerr, consequently connected with the Lothian family.

† Sir Samuel Greig was born at Inverkeithing, county of Fife, in 1735. He was a lieutenant in the British navy at the time he was sent, among others, at the request of the Court of Russia, to improve the marine of that country, which was then in a despicable condition. He was soon made a Captain, and from his great services in the war which ensued against the Turks, under Count Orlov, owing principally to which their whole fleet was destroyed at the Island of Scio, he was appointed Commodore, then Admiral; and not long afterwards the Empress rewarded his services by promoting him to be Admiral of all the Russias, and Governor of Cronstadt. He had also conferred on him the different honours of the empire, viz. :—St Andrew, St Alexander Newsky, St George, &c. He died at Revel of a fever, on the 26th October 1788, shortly after his engagement with the Swedish fleet in the Black Sea, and was interred on the 5th December following, with all the pomp and splendour which the Empress or the empire could bestow. Sir Samuel visited his native country in 1777, on which occasion the Empress ordered a man-of-war to be fitted out for his conveyance. He arrived in Edinburgh on the 20th of August, where he was received with every demonstration of respect. "On Thursday October 2, the Empress of Russia's birthday, the Russian frigate in Leith Roads fired a round of twenty-one guns, which was answered by the same number from the Castle of Edinburgh, and on that occasion the Admiral gave a grand entertainment in *Fortune's* tavern, to the Prince d'Aeschkov, the Lord Provost and Magistrates, and







descendants are now alive. Mr Dickson died, at his house at Stockbridge, on the 8th July 1800.

MR JAMES TORRY, the *quondam* friend of Bailie Dickson, was born about the year 1746 at Paxton, in Berwickshire. His father, Mr John Torry, was for some time governor of Edington Castle, and afterwards factor over the estate of — Hume, Esq. of Paxton, and one of the most influential farmers in that country side. Mr Torry came to Edinburgh in early life, and served his apprenticeship as a clothier with his cousin, Mr John Black. He afterwards commenced business in partnership with Mr Butter, predecessor of the present Mr Butter of Fascal, Perthshire. Their shop was the first one on the east side of the Royal Exchange entry, now possessed by Mr Blyth. Mr Torry married Miss Jane Halliday, daughter of Mr James Halliday, brewer, Leith, by whom he got the estate of Strathore, which he afterwards sold to the father of John Fergus, Esq., the present proprietor, and Member of Parliament for the Kirkaldy district of burghs. He was elected a member of the Town Council in 1772, and next year was constituted one of the magistrates of the city, which honours he enjoyed until 1786. He died on the 22d of November 1788, leaving a son * and daughter. The former survives, but the latter (Mrs Major Douglas) died in Gilmour Place only a few months ago.

No. L.

WILLIAM DOYLE,
SAMUEL SONE, AND
WILLIAM FOSTER.

THE first of these figures to the left was a Lieutenant Doyle; the centre one, Mr Sone, surgeon, commonly called "The Little Doctor;" and the third, Captain Foster, all of the 24th Regiment; the two last were inseparable companions, notwithstanding their disparity in point of size.

While here with the regiment in 1784, they were remarkable for their attention to the fair sex; Mr Kay has accordingly represented them as squireing three of the most celebrated belles of the day, dressed in the fashion of the time, along the North Bridge.

many of the nobility and gentry in the city and neighbourhood. Next day his Excellency was presented with the freedom of the city, on which occasion the Lord Provost, (Dalrymple,) gave an elegant entertainment in his own house. On the 9th of October, his Excellency set sail from Leith Roads, on his return to Russia." While on this visit, the Admiral also went to London, where he was introduced to the King.

* He was for several years a clothier, under the "Three Wool Packs," and well known in the sporting circles of Edinburgh; but he latterly retired from business, whether with or without a fortune we know not. His daughter Jane married, in June 1832, Henry Lord Cardross, eldest son of the Earl of Buchan.

No. LI.

SIR RALPH ABERCROMBY, K.B.,

GIVING THE WORD OF COMMAND.

SIR RALPH ABERCROMBY was the son of George Abercromby of Tullibody, in Clackmannanshire. He was born, in 1734, in the old mansion of Menstrie,* which at that period was the ordinary residence of his parents. The house, which is in the village of Menstrie, although not inhabited by any of the family, is still entire, and is pointed out to strangers as the birthplace of the hero. After going through the usual course of study, he adopted the army as his profession; and, at the age of twenty-two, obtained in the year 1756 a commission as Coronet in the 3d Regiment of Dragoons.

During the early part of his service he had little opportunity of displaying his military talents, but he gradually rose, and in 1787 had attained the rank of Major-General.† After the breaking out of the French revolutionary war, Sir Ralph Abercromby served in the campaigns of 1794 and 1795, under the Duke of York, and by his judicious conduct preserved the British army from destruction during their disastrous retreat through Holland. He commanded the advanced guard, and was wounded at the battle of Nimeguen.

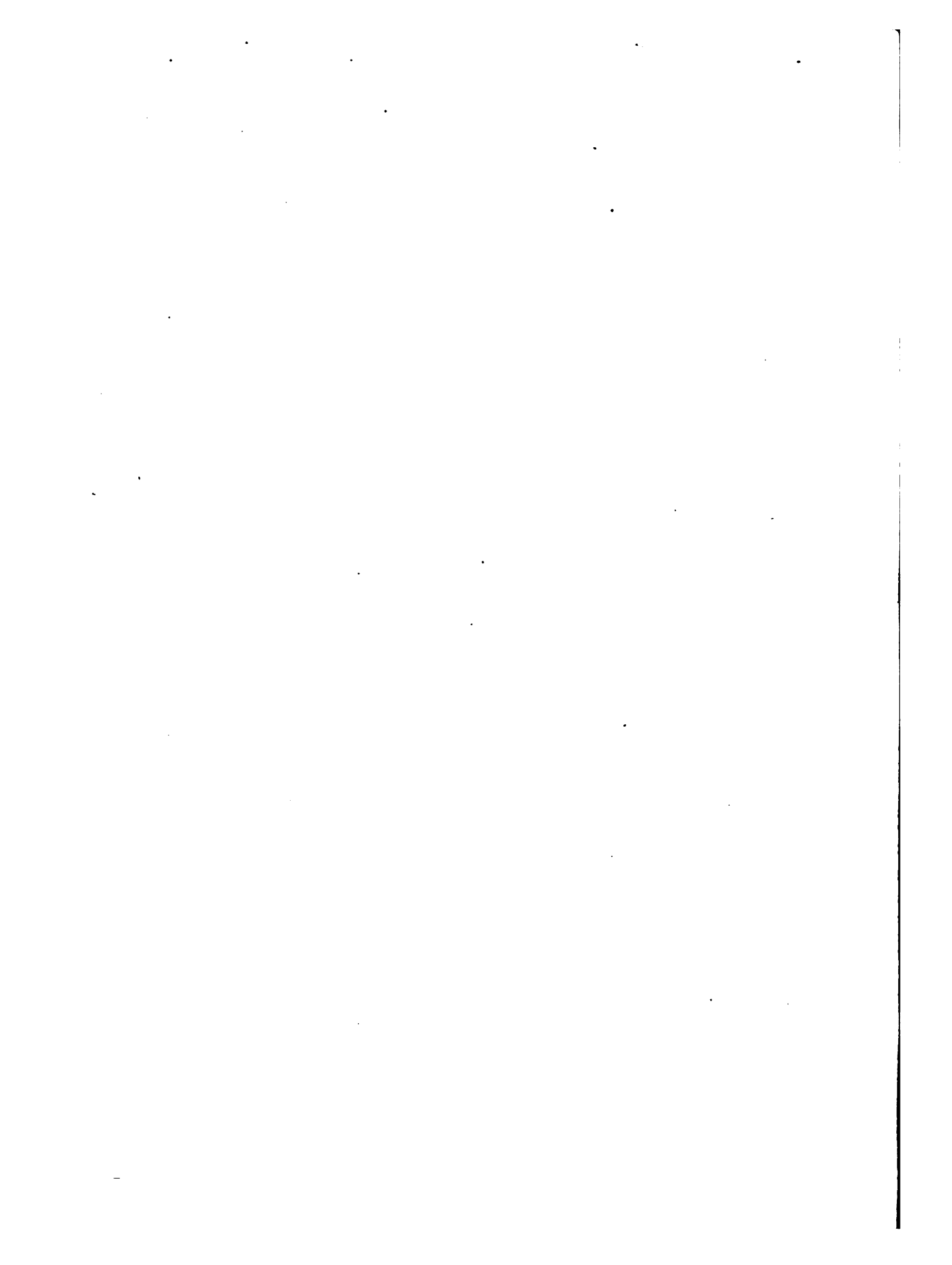
After the return of Sir Charles Grey from the West Indies, the French retook the islands of Guadaloupe and St Lucia, made good their landing on Martinique, and hoisted their national colours on several forts in the islands of St Vincent, Granada, &c., besides possessing themselves of booty to the amount of 1800 millions of livres. For the purpose of checking this devastation, the British fitted out a fleet in the autumn of 1795, with a proper military force. Sir Ralph was entrusted with the charge of the troops, and at the same time appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Forces in the West Indies. Being detained longer than was expected, the equinox set in before the fleet was ready to sail, and, in endeavouring to clear the Channel, several of the transports were

* The estate of Tullibody and Menstrie, at the beginning of the seventeenth century, belonged to Sir William Alexander the poet, better known as Earl of Stirling, which title was conferred upon him by King Charles I. His lordship was much involved in pecuniary difficulties, and his successors had not sufficient prudence to economize; the result of all which was, that their estates were swept away by their creditors somewhere about the middle of that century, by what, in Scots law parlance, are termed "apprisings." Sir Ralph's grandfather, who was a writer in Edinburgh, was the first of the name of Abercromby that possessed Tullibody. He is represented by the Peerage compilers as a descendant of the family of Birkingbog; but no evidence has been produced to substantiate this averment. He had two brothers who attained eminence in their respective callings. Alexander, an advocate, was, on the 7th June 1792, raised to the bench by the title of Lord Abercromby, and died 17th November 1795; and Sir Robert, K.C.B., a General in the Army, who died in 1827.

† In 1788 Sir Ralph's place of residence in Edinburgh was in George's Square.



SIR RALPH ABERCROMBY. K.B.



lost. The remainder of the fleet reached the West Indies in safety, and by the month of March 1796, the troops were in a condition for active duty. The General succeeded in driving the French from all their possessions, and, assisted by part of a new convoy from Britain, was enabled to capture the island of Trinidad from the Spaniards.

Sir Ralph next made an attack upon the Spanish island of Puerto Rico, which proved unsuccessful, but without by any means tarnishing his previously well-earned laurels. On his return to this country in 1797, he was received with every demonstration of public respect. He was presented by his Majesty with the Colonelcy of the Scots Greys—invested with the honour of the Order of the Bath—rewarded with the lucrative governments of Fort-George and Fort-Augustus, and, on the 26th of January, he was raised to the rank of Lieutenant-General in the Army.

Sir Ralph was next appointed to the chief command in Ireland, where the flame of civil war was threatening to burst forth. After visiting a great portion of the kingdom, and restoring in a great degree the discipline of the army, which, in the Commander's own words, had become, from their irregularities, "more formidable to their friends than their enemies," the General was removed by the Marquis Cornwallis, who united the offices of Lord-Lieutenant and Commander-in-Chief in his own person, much to the satisfaction of Sir Ralph, who was anxious to leave Ireland. He was then appointed Commander of the Forces in Scotland.

In 1798, Sir Ralph was selected to take charge of the expedition sent out to Holland, for the purpose of restoring the Prince of Orange to the Stadtholdership, from which he had been ejected by the French. In this expedition the British were at the outset successful. The first and well-contested encounter with General Daendell, on the 27th of August, near the Helder Point, in which the Dutch were defeated, led to the immediate evacuation of the Helder, by which thirteen ships of war and three Indiamen, together with the arsenal and naval magazine, fell an easy prey to the British. The Dutch fleet also surrendered to Admiral Mitchell, the sailors refusing to fight against the Prince of Orange. This encouraging event, however, by no means spoke the sentiments of the mass of the Dutch people, or disconcerted the enemy. On the morning of the 11th of September, the Dutch and French forces attacked the position of the British, which extended from Petten on the German Ocean, to Oude-Sluis on the Zuyder-Zee. The onset was made with the utmost bravery, but the enemy were repulsed with the loss of a thousand men. Sir Ralph, from the want of numbers, was unable to follow up this advantage, until the Duke of York arrived as Commander-in-Chief, with a number of Russians, Batavians, and Dutch volunteers, which augmented the allied army to nearly thirty-six thousand.

An attempt upon the enemy's positions on the heights of Camperdown being agreed upon, on the morning of the 19th September the allied forces successfully commenced the attack. The Russians made themselves masters of Bergen; but commencing the pillage too soon, the enemy rallied, and attacked the Rus-

sians—who were busy plundering—with so much impetuosity, that they were driven from the town in all directions. This untoward circumstance compelled the British to abandon the positions they had stormed, and to fall back upon their former station. Another attack on the stronghold of the enemy was made on the 2d of October. The conflict lasted the whole day, but the enemy abandoned their positions during the night. On this occasion Sir Ralph Abercromby had two horses shot under him. Sir John Moore was twice wounded severely, and reluctantly carried off the field; while the Marquis of Huntly, (the late Duke of Gordon,) who, at the head of the 92d regiment, was eminently distinguished, received a wound from a ball in the shoulder.

The Dutch and French troops having taken up another strong position between Benerwyck and the Zuyder-Zee, it was resolved to dislodge them before they could receive reinforcements. A day of sanguinary fighting ensued, which continued without intermission until ten o'clock at night, amid deluges of rain. General Brune having been reinforced with six thousand additional men, and the ground he occupied being nearly impregnable, while the arms and ammunition of the British, who were all night exposed to the elements, were rendered useless, retreat became a measure of necessity. Upon this the Duke of York entered into an armistice with the Republican forces, by which the troops were allowed to embark for England, where they arrived in safety.

No. LII.

GENERAL SIR RALPH ABERCROMBY, K.B.,

VIEWING THE ARMY, ENCAMPED ON THE PLAINS OF EGYPT.

IN the month of June 1800, General Abercromby was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the troops ultimately destined for Egypt. Owing to casualties unnecessary to mention, the armament did not reach the place of its destination till the 8th of March 1801, on which day the troops disembarked in Aboukir Bay, notwithstanding the strenuous efforts of the French to prevent them.

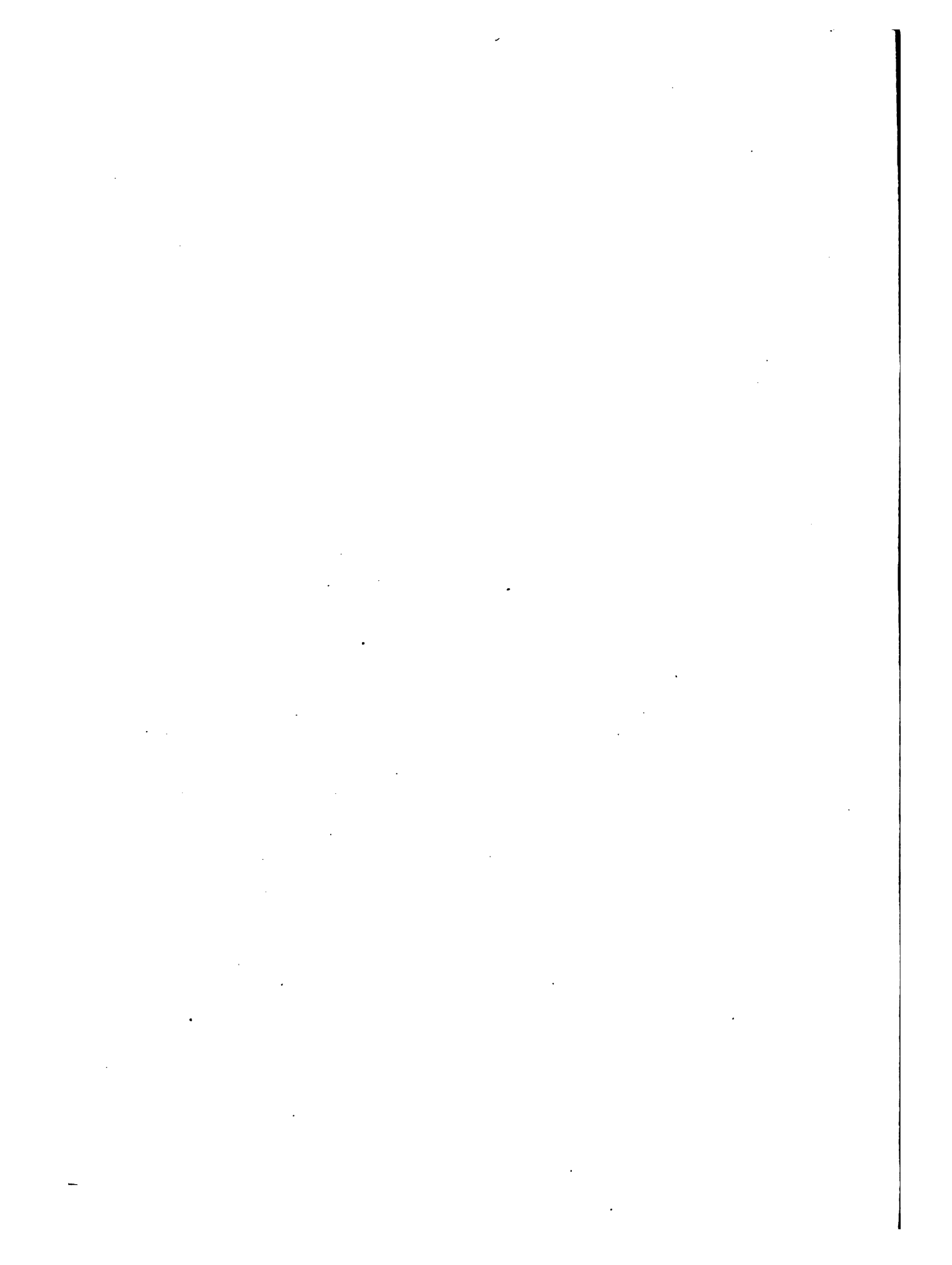
On the 13th March, Sir Ralph attacked the French in their position, and succeeded, after a keen contest, in forcing them to retreat to the heights of Nicopolis. An attempt to take these heights, which were found to be commanded by the guns of the fort, proved unsuccessful. The British took up the position formerly occupied by the enemy, with their right to the sea, and their left to the canal of Alexandria, thus cutting off all communication with the city. On the 18th the garrison of Aboukir surrendered.

General Menou, the French commander, having been reinforced, attempted to take the British by surprise, and suddenly attacked their positions with his whole force. The enemy advanced with much impetuosity, shouting as they went, but they were received with steady coolness by the British troops. The field



J. KAY. del.

GEN^L SIR RALPH ABERCROMBY. K.B



was contested with various success, until General Menou, finding that all his endeavours proved fruitless, ordered a retreat, which, from the want of cavalry on the part of the British, he was enabled to accomplish in good order. This battle, which proved decisive of the fate of Egypt, and left an impression not easily to be effaced of British courage and prowess, was dearly gained by the death of Sir Ralph himself. Early in the morning he had taken his station in the front line, from the exposed nature of which, and at a moment when he had dispersed all his staff on various duties, the enemy attempted to take him prisoner.* From this perilous situation the General was relieved by the valour of his troops, when it was discovered that he had been wounded in the thigh. He was repeatedly pressed by the soldiers to have the wound attended to; but he treated it as a matter of no moment, and continued to give directions on the field until victory became certain by the retreat of the enemy. The intense excitement of action being thus over, Sir Ralph at last fainted from loss of blood; and although the wound was immediately examined, every attempt to extract the ball proved unsuccessful. He was carried on a litter aboard the *Foudroyant*, where he died on the 28th of March.

The death of General Abercromby was looked upon as a national calamity. A monument was ordered to be erected to his memory by the House of Commons; and his Majesty, as a mark of farther respect, conferred the title of Baroness on his lady, and the dignity of Baron to the heirs-male of his body. On the recommendation of his Majesty, a pension of two thousand pounds per annum was voted to the Baroness, and to the two next succeeding heirs.

The capital of his native country was not backward in acknowledging the honour reflected by so worthy a son. At a meeting of the Magistrates and Town Council of Edinburgh, it was resolved that a monument to the memory of Sir Ralph Abercromby should be erected on the wall of the High Church; and a very liberal collection was made in all the churches and chapels for the relief of the families of the "brave men who had fallen in Egypt." In honour of his memory, also, the Edinburgh Volunteer Brigade, on the 2d of June, performed a grand military spectacle at the Meadows. They were dressed in "deep funeral uniform," while the bands performed "plaintive pieces of music, some of which were composed for the occasion." The crowd of spectators, as may be supposed, was immense, and the scene is said to have been "solemn and impressive."

Sir Ralph married Anne, daughter of John Menzies of Fernton, in the county of Perth, by whom he had four sons and two daughters. His eldest son, George, on the death of his mother, 17th February 1821, became Lord Abercromby of Aboukir and Tullibody, and married, 27th January 1799,

* Two of the enemy's cavalry dashing forward, and "drawing up on each side, attempted to lead him away prisoner. In this unequal contest he received a blow on the breast; but with the vigour and strength of arm for which he was distinguished, he seized on the sabre of one of those who struggled with him, and forced it out of his hand. At this moment a corporal of the 42d Highlanders, seeing his situation, ran up to his assistance, and shot one of the assailants, on which the other retired."

Montague, third daughter of Henry first Viscount Melville, by whom he has issue one son and two daughters. His second son, John, G.C.B., died unmarried, in the year 1817. The third son, James, (a Privy Councillor,) practised as an English barrister, and was for many years auditor to the Duke of Devonshire. He relinquished that employment upon being appointed Judge-Advocate-General, under Canning's Administration. He was afterwards appointed (in February 1830) Lord Chief Baron of the Court of Exchequer in Scotland, which office he held until its abolition. It is hardly necessary to mention that James is presently M.P. for the city of Edinburgh, and Speaker of the House of Commons. He married, in 1802, Mary Anne, daughter of Egerton Leigh, Esq., by whom he has issue one son, Ralph, (born 6th April 1803,) now envoy to Tuscany. The fourth son, Alexander, C.B., who still survives, is a Lieutenant-Colonel in the Army.

No. LIII.

LAUHLAN M'BAIN.

THIS Print, done in 1791, represents a well-known vender of roasting-jacks. Although confessing at this period to the venerable age of seventy-five, he was still "hail and hearty," and in the zenith of his professional celebrity.

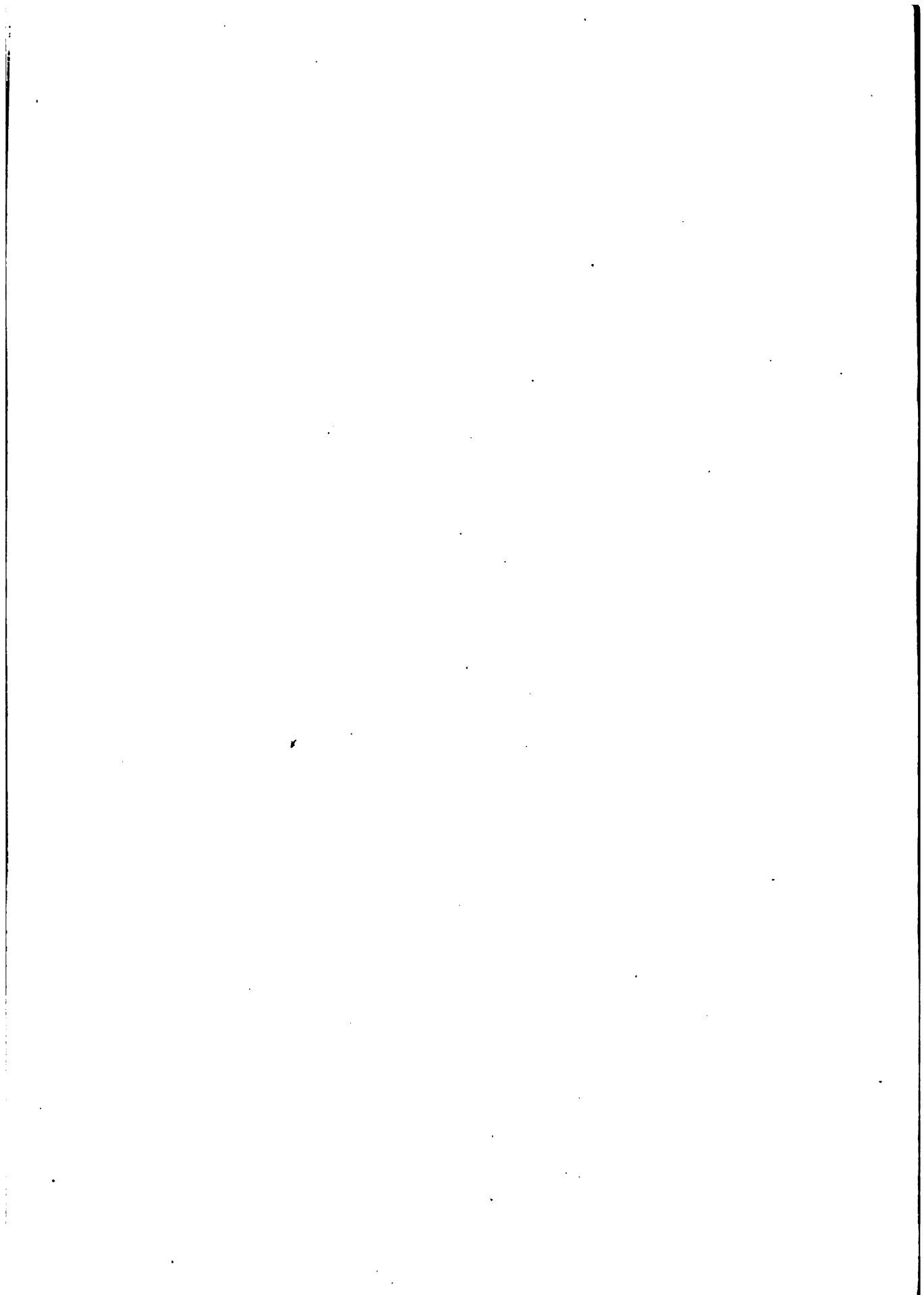
Lauchlan had been a soldier, and at one time served in the 21st, or Royal Scots Fusiliers. It is not said whether he had been at the inglorious affair of Prestonpans, but he hesitated not to state that he was one of the victors at Culloden. At what period he obtained his discharge is unknown; but unfortunately for him his retirement from the army was not accompanied by any pension. Upon the cessation of his military duties he came to Edinburgh, where he settled down in civil life by becoming a manufacturer of fly-jacks and toasting-forks. In this vocation Lauchlan soon acquired notoriety, and became one of the characters of "Auld Reekie." Those who recollect him, and there are many, still remember the fine modulations of his sonorous yet musical voice, as he sang the "roasting toasting" ditty; and, like Blind Aleck of Glasgow, he was "the author of all he made, said, or sung."

Lauchlan was unquestionably a favourite with the populace; but as the most universally esteemed are unable to elbow through the world without sometimes giving offence, so it happened with the honest vender of roasting-jacks. His professional chant, as he frequently winded his way up the back stairs leading from the Cowgate to the Parliament Square, became exceedingly annoying to the gentlemen of the long robe, who, though anxious to abate the nuisance, were unable legally to entangle their tormentor in the meshes of the law. Lauchlan, sensible that these visits might be turned to account, was most assi-



Ed. G. 1792

*Now for your quarters and Shoulders of Mutton or
Lamb Geese and turkeys. any more a Waiting my
heartly ones. What are you all asleep nours your time.
I leave this City to morrow & have Sold Sixteen
Hundred dozen all well provid well ty'd the last one now*



duous in paying them, and never failed, when the judges were sitting, to exert his stentorian lungs under the windows of the Court-house. This he did with such success, that at length both judges and practitioners, having lost all patience, collected amongst themselves a sum of money, which they deemed sufficient to purchase an exemption in future from these provoking visitations. Lauchlan pocketed the fee, and promised faithfully not to let his voice come within hearing of the Court in future. He no doubt intended to keep religiously by the letter of his agreement, but at the same time mentally calculated upon the *eclat*, if not the profit, of outwitting a whole court of lawyers. Accordingly, next day he was seen at the usual spot with a huge bell, to which he gave full effect by a scientific movement of the arm that would have done credit to the most experienced city bellman. Many wondered at the sudden change in Lauchlan's mode of announcing his presence; but he explained this by facetiously remarking, that "having sold his *own* tongue to the judges, he was under the necessity of using another."—The ingenuity of Lauchlan was rewarded by an additional *douceur*, coupled with the condition, which he scrupulously kept, that in future there was to be an absolute cessation of his visits in that quarter.

In the course of his peregrinations, Lauchlan offended a well-known civic dignitary, Bailie Creech, one of the chief booksellers in Edinburgh, whose shop was in the centre of the Luckenbooths. The Bailie felt his dignity lessened by the contemptuous manner in which the Veteran of Culloden treated his instructions not to bawl so unharmoniously in front of his shop. At last resolving to compel obedience, he summoned Lauchlan to *compear* before the magistrates. On the day of trial the defender fearlessly entered the Council Chamber, where Creech sat in judgment. After the complaint had been preferred, and a volley of abuse discharged by the angry bailie, old Lauchlan, with an air of well-assumed independence, produced his discharge, and asserted the right which it gave him to pursue his calling in any town or city in Great Britain, save Oxford or Cambridge. The northern Dogberry was dreadfully vexed that in this way his mighty preparation had come to nothing; and, after advising with the ordinary assessor in the Bailie Court, the well-known *James Laing*, he found himself compelled to dismiss the complaint. No sooner had Lauchlan regained the "crown o' the causey," than a universal shout from the "callants" announced the defeat of the Bailie; while the victor, taking his station on the debateable ground in front of the shop, commenced with renewed vigour the obnoxious *cry* of "R—r—r—roasting toasting jacks." This was repeated so often, that even the penurious Mr Creech was compelled to *purchase* a cessation of hostilities.

Notwithstanding all his popularity, however, poor Lauchlan found himself, at the long age of ninety-six, possessor of more fame than fortune. It is possible that his own tipping propensities, and consequent want of economy, may have had some share in producing this disastrous result. On one occasion

the late Mr Smith, lamp-contractor for the city of Edinburgh, was the means of saving the poor fellow's life, having found him fast asleep, in a cold wintry night, among the snow near the Meadow Cage.

Finding old age and frailty stealing upon him, in 1805 Lauchlan made an unsuccessful application to the Marquis of Hastings, then Earl of Moira, who was at the time Commander-in-Chief of the Forces in Scotland, to obtain a pension in consequence of the long period of his service. Starvation or the workhouse were now the veteran's only alternatives. His philosophy preferred the latter, and the interest of some friends procured him admission to the Charity Workhouse. One would have thought that his weatherbeaten hulk had at length found a quiet haven—but no! *genius*, it has been remarked, is always *young*, and the adventurous spirit of the warlike son of Mars could not subside into inglorious quiescence. Old Lauchlan, at the age of ninety-six, was turned out of barracks for an amour! The tender-hearted old nurse of the establishment—some twenty years younger than himself—had shown him kindness during an illness, ministering to his wants, and sometimes sitting at his bedside, receiving with greedy ears his stories

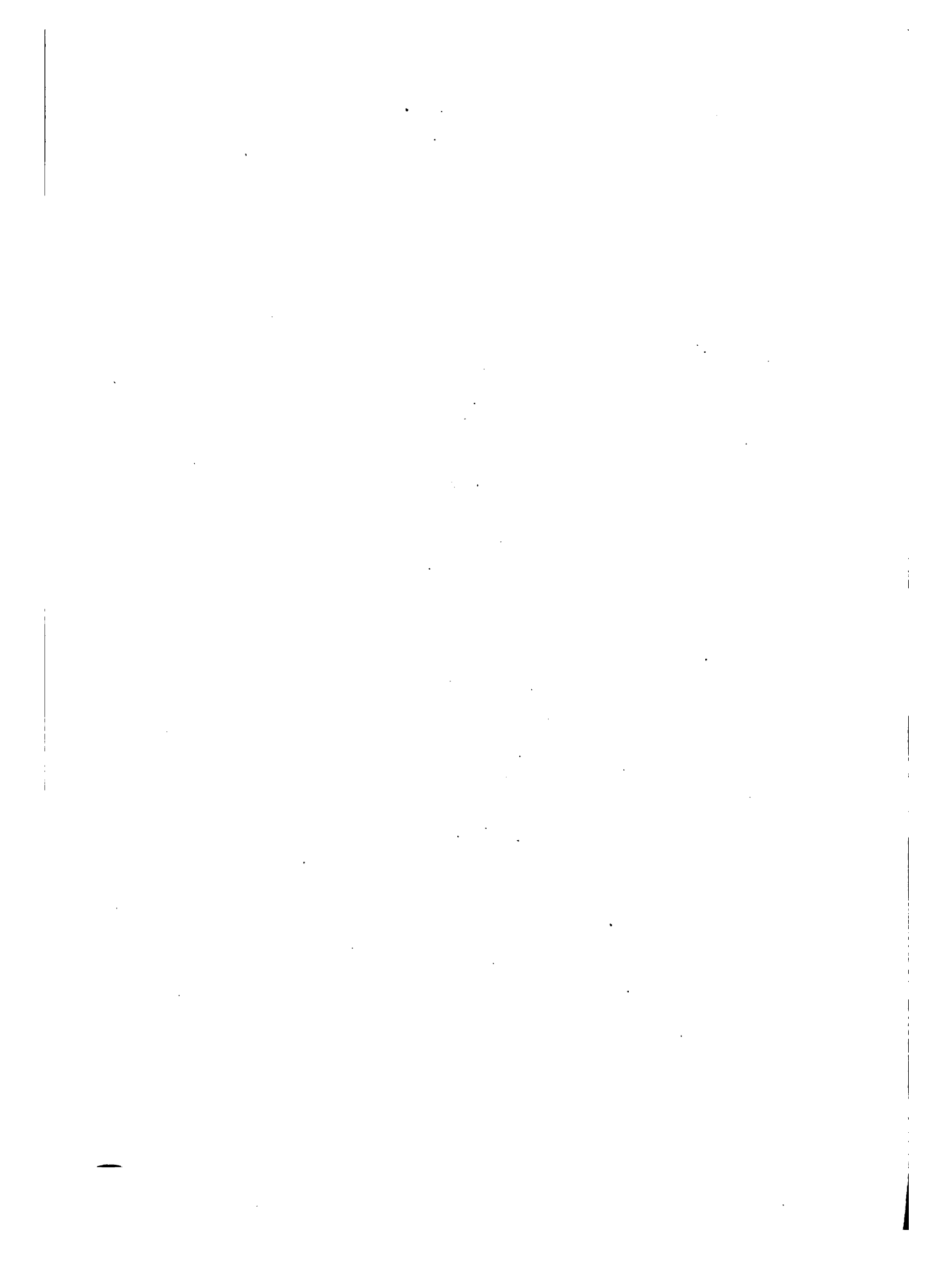
“ Of moving accidents by flood and field,
Of hair-breadth 'scapes in the imminent deadly breach.”
. “ His story being done,
She gave him for his pains a world of sighs.”

One day, one unpropitious day, an evil eye beheld the simple pair at their feast of sympathy, and such proceedings not being in accordance with the rules of the establishment, they were both expelled. What could a man of spirit do in such a dilemma? Marriage could alone testify his gratitude to the gentle fair, and his resentment of a harsh world's cruelty.

No. LIV.

THIS is a second Print of LAUHLAN M'BAIN, done in 1815. The contrast, in the “ altered gait” of the two figures, is a striking illustration of the progress of time. He is here represented, after his dismissal from the Workhouse, as again employed in the disposal of his roasting-jacks; but, alas! the best of his days were over. Like other geniuses, he found he had outlived his reputation; and the useful implements in which he dealt hardly enabled him to beat off the wolf from his door. His wife continued to cling to him through all his adversity, and, it is said, helped to cheer the gloomy winter of his age and fortunes. Lauchlan died in 1818, aged 102.









La. RAN. Eternal providence! What is thy name?
My name is NORVAL: and my name he bears.

DOUGLAS

J. Rayfeci 1714

No. LV.

MRS SIDDONS,

MR SUTHERLAND,

MRS WOODS,

OF THE THEATRE-ROYAL, EDINBURGH.

EVERY one who has turned over the leaves of a dramatic biography is acquainted with the usual statements relative to the life of MRS SIDDONS,—how she first appeared at Drury-Lane Theatre, in the year 1775, as the representative of *Portia*, and towards the end of the season degenerated into a walking Venus in the pageant of the *Jubilee*,—how she returned to the Bath Theatre the year following,—how, a few years afterwards, she reappeared in London with extraordinary success, and, after a brilliant career, finally retired from the stage in July 1812. Her biographers, however, have never indulged the world with any thing like a detailed account of her first appearance on the Edinburgh stage, which occurred on the 22d May 1784. During her engagement, “the rage for seeing her was so great, that one day there were 2557 applications for 630 places;” and many even came from Newcastle to witness her performances.* Her engagement was owing to a few spirited individuals, who took all risk on themselves, the manager of the Edinburgh Theatre being afraid of hazardous speculations. The *Edinburgh Weekly Magazine*, in its report of her appearance, mentions, that “the manager had taken the precaution, after the first night, to have an officer’s guard of soldiers at the principal door. But several scuffles having ensued, through the eagerness of the people to get places, and the soldiers having been rash in the use of their bayonets, it was thought advisable to withdraw the guard on the third night, lest any accident had happened from the pressure of the crowd, who began to assemble round the doors at eleven in the forenoon.”

* The attractions of Mrs Siddons were so great, that few could resist the temptation of visiting the Theatre. Amongst those whom her fascinations had drawn from their burrows in the Old Town, was a respectable gentleman belonging to the profession of the law, of the name of Fraser, who was induced to take this, to him, most extraordinary step, in order to gratify his daughter. The play selected was *Venice Preserved*; and, after some little difficulty, the father and daughter were seated in the pit. Old Fraser listened to the first act with the most perfect composure: the second followed, and in the course of it he asked his daughter, “Which was the woman Siddons?” She, perfectly amazed, solved the difficulty by pointing out *Belvidera*, the *only female* in the play. Nothing more occurred till the catastrophe. Then, but not till then, he turned to his daughter and inquired, “Is this a comedy or a tragedy?”—“Bless me, Papa! a tragedy, to be sure.”—“So I thought, for I’m beginning to feel a commotion.”

The plays she acted in were as follow :—

May 22. Venice Preserved.	June 5. Jane Shore.
24. Gamester.	7. Douglas.
26. Venice Preserved.	9. Grecian Daughter, (for her benefit.)
27. Gamester.	10. Mourning Bride.
29. Mourning Bride.	11. Grecian Daughter, (for benefit of the Charity Workhouse.)
June 1. Douglas.	
3. Isabella.	

On the 12th she set out for Dublin, where she was engaged to perform twenty nights for £1000.

In speaking of her appearance in *Douglas*, the *Courant* observes, “ We have seen Mrs Crawford in the part of Lady Randolph, and she played it perhaps with more solemnity and as much dignity as Mrs Siddons, but surely not with so much interesting sensibility. It would far exceed our limits to point out or describe the many beauties that charmed us in the representation of this piece. Mrs Siddons never once disappoints the spectator ; but from the moment of her appearance she interests and carries along his admiration of every tone, look, and gesture. While the discovery of her son gradually proceeds, she suspends the audience in the most pleasing interesting anxiety.

“ During the beautiful narration of Old Norval, when he says—

‘ Red came the river down, and loud and oft
The angry spirit of the water shriek’d, &c.,

she kept the audience by her looks and attitude in the most silent anxious attention, and they read in her countenance every movement of her soul. But when she breaks out—

‘ Inhuman that thou art !
How could’st thou kill what waves and tempests spared ?’

they must be of a flinty nature indeed who burst not into tears.

“ When she discovers herself to her son—

‘ My son ! my son !
I am thy mother, and the wife of Douglas,’

we believe there was not a dry eye in the whole house.”

Mrs Siddons played eleven nights exclusive of the charity one. She shared L.50 a-night for ten nights, and at her benefit drew L.350, besides a sum of L.260, with which a party of gentlemen presented her. From the subscribers she received an elegant piece of plate, on which was engraved—“ As a mark of esteem for superior genius and unrivalled talents, this vase is respectfully inscribed with the name of SIDDONS. Edinburgh, 9th June 1784.”

The poetical epistle which follows, showing the ferment into which her presence threw the town, is clever, and worthy of preservation :—

EPISTLE FROM MISS MARIA BELINDA BOGLE AT EDINBURGH, TO HER FRIEND, MISS LAVINIA LEETCH AT GLASGOW.

I HEAR with deep sorrow, my beautiful Leetch,
 In vain to come here you your father beseech ;
 I say in all places, and say it most truly,
 His heart is as hard as the heart of *Prinli* ;
 'Tis composed of black flint, or of Aberdeen granite,
 But smother your rage—'twould be folly to fan it.

Each evening the playhouse exhibits a mob,
 And the right of admission 's turn'd into a job.
 By five the whole pit used to fill with subscribers,
 And those who had money enough to be bribers.
 But the public took fire, and began a loud jar,
 And I thought we'd have had a Siddonian war.
 The Committees met, and the lawyers' hot mettle
 Began very soon both to cool and to settle :
 Of public resentment to blunt the keen edge,
 In a coop they commented that sixty they'd wedge ;
 And the coop's now so cramm'd, it will scarce hold a mouse,
 And the rest of the Pit's turn'd a true public-house.
 With porter and pathos, with whisky and whining,
 They quickly all look as if long they'd been dining ;
 Their shrub and their sighs court our noses and ears,
 And their twopenny blends in libation with tears :
 The god of good liquor with fervour they woo,
 And before the fifth act they are " *a' greeting fou.*"
 Though my muse to write satire's reluctant and loth,
 This custom, I think, savours strong of the Goth.

As for Siddons herself, her features so tragic
 Have caught the whole town with the force of their magic :
 Her action is varied, her voice is extensive,
 Her eye very fine, but somewhat too pensive.
 In the terrible trials of *Beverley's* wife
 She rose not above the dull level of life.
 She was greatly too simple to strike very deep,
 And I thought more than once to have fallen asleep.
 Her sorrows in *Shore* were so soft and so still,
 That my heart lay as snug as a thief in a mill :
 I have never as yet been much overcome
 With distress that's so gentle, and grief that's so dumb ;
 And, to tell the plain truth, I have not seen any
 They get, like the tumble of *Yates* in *Mandans* ;
 For acting should certainly rise above nature,
 But indeed now and then she's a wonderful creature.—
 When *Zara's* revenge burst in storms from the tongue,
 With rage and reproach all the ample roof rung,—
Isabella, too, rose all superior to sadness,
 And our hearts were well harrow'd with horror and madness.
 From all sides of the house, hark the cry how it swells !
 While the boxes are torn with most heart-piercing yells,—
 The *Misses* all faint, it becomes them so vastly,
 And their cheeks are so red, that they never look ghastly :

Even ladies advanced to their grand climacterics
 Are often led out in a fit of hysterics ;
 The screams are wide-wafted east, west, south, and north,
 Loud Echo prolongs them on both sides the Forth.

You ask me what beauties most touchingly strike ?—
 They are beauteous all, and all beauteous alike,
 With lovely complexions that time ne'er can tarnish,
 So thick they're laid o'er with a delicate varnish ;
 Their bosoms and neck have a gloss and a burnish,
 And their cheeks with fresh roses from Raeburn* they furnish.

I quickly return, and am just on the wing,
 And some things I'm sure that you'll like I will bring—
 The sweet Siddons' cap, the latest dear ogle :
 Farewell till we meet. Your true friend,

MARY BOGLE.

Edinburgh, June 7, 1784.

During the Summer Season of the following year Mrs Siddons again honoured Modern Athens with her presence, and created as great a sensation as she had done the year preceding. The receipts during her engagement were:—

1785, July 12. Grecian Daughter, . . .	L.95	0	0
14. Macbeth,	125	0	0
16. Fair Penitent,	126	0	0
18. Isabella,	154	0	0
20. Douglas,	130	0	0
23. Carmelite,	128	0	0
25. Venice Preserved,	130	0	0
26. Carmelite,	84	0	0
27. Which is the Man? †	84	0	0
28. Isabella,	139	0	0
29. Suspicious Husband,	15	0	0
30. Jane Shore,	115	0	0
August 1. Earl of Warwick,	123	0	0
2. Mourning Bride,	107	0	0
3. Provoked Husband, †	125	0	0
6. Gamester, §	200	0	0
8. Douglas,	137	0	0
9. Earl of Warwick,	60	16	0

On the 12th of August, Mrs Siddons made her first appearance in Glasgow, in the character of *Belvidera*.

* The principal perfumer at that period in Edinburgh.

† In this comedy Miss Kemble appeared as *Lady Bell Bloomer*, but Mrs Siddons did not act in it.

‡ For the benefit of Miss Kemble.

§ Mrs Siddons' own benefit, exclusive of sold tickets. Upon this occasion she acted the part of the *Fine Lady*, (with a song in character,) [!!] in the afterpiece of *Lethé*.

MR SUTHERLAND'S range of character seems to have been rather extensive, for we find him cast for, and playing *Stukely*, in the *Gamester*, *Falkland* in the *Rivals*, *Sciolto* in the *Fair Penitent*, *Oroonoko*, *Old Norval*, &c. He made his first appearance on the Edinburgh stage on the evening of Monday the 21st January 1782, in the character of *Oroonoko*, being announced as from the Dublin Theatre. "Mr Sutherland," says a critique of his performance of this character, "I apprehend, was not well advised when he ventured a first appearance in this ticklish hero. His person ought to have commanded respect, and the lustre of his eye to have shone through his sooty complexion. But his person is not princely, and his eye could not always be distinguished from the rest of his face, but by the white. His attitudes were in general well imagined, but not properly supported. If the eye was attracted by the disposition of the body, the ear was offended by the unmeaning unexpressive voice. It is lamentable indeed when the voice denies its office, and will not convey the feelings of its master; for I am sensible the gentleman frequently felt the genuine emotions arising from his situation. He is very much in the predicament of the rest as to action; where it was not much required he was redundant, and where the tempest and whirlwind of passion demanded correspondent agitations of the body, he was unsuccessful. Why should tears be represented by clapping a white handkerchief to the face, or by applying the hand to the eyes? When this performer shall have acquired a proper strength, clearness, and modulation of voice, which are certainly not unattainable, he may do well."

Of Mr Sutherland's appearance in *Stukely*, the following notice is taken:—
 " *Stukely*, upon the whole, was well done, and in some strokes excellent; but the voice was too low, and the manner and action too pinched, for such a bold-faced villain."

Very little is known of MRS WOODS. She seldom acted, and then only characters of a trifling nature—*Elixa* in Jackson's *Eldred*, and *Leonora* in the *Mourning Bride*, for instance. Her husband was for thirty years the leading actor in the Edinburgh Theatre, his admirers—the public—having during that time strenuously opposed every attempt of the manager to supersede him. Mr Woods retired on the 19th April 1802, purposing to occupy his time by giving instructions in elocution; but disease did not permit him to carry such a scheme into effect, and he died on the 14th December of that year.

On the occasion of his benefit, 17th April 1784, was performed "A New Local, Farcical, Musical Interlude, (never before acted,) called *Hallow Fair*," in which he played " *Young Riot*, the drunken buck," which is curious as not being included in the *Biographia Dramatica*.

No. LVI.

CAPTAIN GEORGE GORDON,
CAPTAIN GEORGE ROBERTSON,
AND JOHN GRIEVE, ESQ.,
LORD PROVOST OF EDINBURGH.

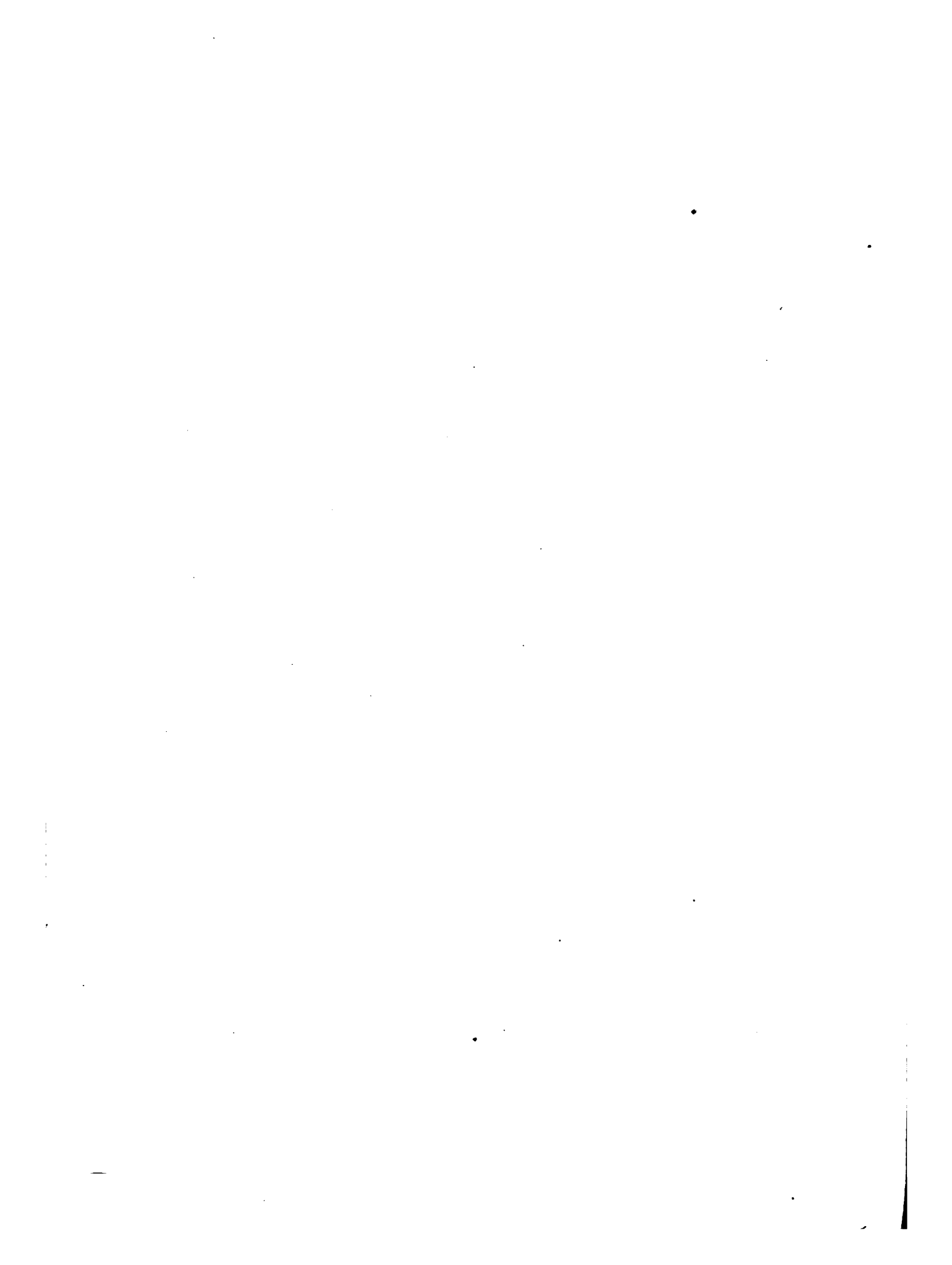
CAPTAIN GORDON, the first figure in the Print, is represented as in attendance on the Lord Provost. He was formerly an officer of the Scottish Brigade * in the service of Holland, and was appointed to his situation as Captain in the Town Guard, on the death of Captain Robertson in 1787. He lived in Bell's Wynd, High Street, and was somewhat remarkable for his forenoon or meridian potations, an indulgence by no means uncommon in his day. He died on the 25th September 1803.

CAPTAIN ROBERTSON, who is in the attitude of receiving instructions from the Lord Provost, has already been noticed as one of "the Three Captains of Pilate's Guard," No. XV.

JOHN GRIEVE, Esq., the centre figure of this triumvirate, was a merchant in the Royal Exchange, and held the office of Lord Provost in the years 1782-3, and again in 1786-7. He entered the Town Council so early as 1765, was treasurer in 1769, and Dean of Guild in 1778-9. Mr Grieve possessed a great deal of natural sagacity, to which he entirely owed his success in business,

* The Scottish Brigade in Holland were a body of about six battalions, originally sent for the purpose of assisting the Republic. They continued to be supplied with recruits from Scotland, and kept in an effective state; but under one pretence or other they were detained so long in the service of the Dutch, that it almost came to be a matter of dispute whether there existed a right to recall them. In 1763 the chiefs or officers of the regiment addressed a strong remonstrance to the British Secretary at War, expressing a desire to be removed from the provinces on account of indifferent usage; but either from inability or neglect, their remonstrance was not sufficiently attended to. In 1779, they again made offer of their services to the British Government, being unwilling to loiter away their time in garrison towns, "while the enemies of their country were uniting against her;" but the States of the United Provinces resolved that the Scotch Brigade should, on and after the 1st of January 1783, be incorporated with the Dutch troops, and in every way similarly situated. At that time the Scotch Brigade had been above 200 years in the service of the States, and in the numerous battles and sieges in which they had been engaged they never lost a single colour, having on all occasions defended them with the utmost bravery. "At Bergen-op-Zoom, in 1747, in particular, General Marjoribanks's regiment consisted of 850 rank and file, of which only 220 survived the fatal storm of the place; but these brave handful of men, although many of them were wounded, cut their way through the grenadiers of France, and carried off their colours in triumph into the lines of the Allied army of Steebergen." On this conjunction of the Scotch Brigade with the Dutch regiments, many of the officers refusing to subscribe the new oaths of allegiance, returned to their native country.





as well as his rise in civic dignity, being almost totally uneducated—so much so, that on many occasions he displayed the most gross ignorance of his own language, by the ludicrous misapplication of words even in common conversation. He was nevertheless a very active and upright magistrate, “although,” says Mr Kay, “there was always something in his manner that acted against his popularity;” and when city politics ran high, as they frequently did during his long connexion with the civic government, the circumstance of his having been horse-whipped by some of the “Edinburgh bucks,”—for having, while a constable, committed some females of equivocal repute to the Guard-house, under the *protection* of the famed *Shon Dhu*—was frequently commented upon by his opponents. For this assault they were apprehended, and, with great justice, severely fined.

Mr Grieve deserved some credit for his political or rather party consistency, a virtue, according to Mr Kay, as rare in those days as it is now. His active support of Sir Laurence Dundas in 1780,* seems to have been the means of facilitating his future rise. He was elected Lord Provost in 1782; and in 1788 he attained the acme of his ambition, by being appointed one of his Majesty’s Commissioners of Excise.

Mr Grieve resided for many years in Strichen’s Close, High Street, the house having an entrance also from Blackfriars’ Wynd. The premises were at a

* Sir Laurence Dundas had represented the city of Edinburgh from 1767 till 1780; but he had offended many of his constituents by voting in opposition to Lord North’s Administration, on Mr Dunning’s motion (April 6) respecting the increasing influence of the Crown, which he did, it was stated, in revenge for having been refused a British Peerage. The candidate who was proposed in his stead was the present Sir William Miller, afterwards Lord Glenlee, a gentleman at that time young, but possessed of great abilities, and universally respected. The writs were issued in September, a short time prior to the annual election of the Town Council; and the friends of Sir Laurence, aware that they were in a minority, resorted to every expedient to postpone the election of the city member until the meeting of the new Council. The friends of Mr Miller, on the other hand, were as determined not to delay the return of their representative. The Lord Provost (Walter Hamilton, Esq.) was at the time in bad health, and confined to his house.—by Sir Laurence’s friends he was represented as capable of doing his duty, while their opponents affirmed the contrary. Be that as it may, however, Sir Laurence’s party succeeded in withholding the Sheriff’s precept. Mr Miller’s friends contended that the circumstances of the Provost’s indisposition were such as to warrant the senior Bailie in assuming his functions. They accordingly, under authority of old Bailie Leslie, and furnished with a notarial copy of the precept, convened a meeting of the Council, and on the 16th September elected Mr Miller member for the city. Mr Grieve protested against the proceedings in name of his fellow-councillors, while Hugo Arnot did the same thing for the Lord Provost. By the time, however, that the new leets of magistrates were made up, and five new councillors admitted, it was found that Sir Laurence’s friends were in the majority. A new election was the consequence, under the sanction of the Lord Provost, which took place on the 9th September, and Sir Laurence of course returned amid the counter-protests of Mr Miller’s friends. Thus there were two members elected for the city of Edinburgh. The circumstance, as was to be expected, gave rise to various law proceedings, which were brought before the Court of Session; while Sir Laurence petitioned Parliament against the return of Mr Miller. A committee was accordingly appointed by the House of Commons, who set aside the then sitting member, by declaring the petitioner duly elected.

The famous Deacon Brodie made a conspicuous figure in this election, by keeping back his promise to vote for either party. In consequence of this he made himself a man of great moment to both of the candidates, because on his vote the election rested.

former period occupied by the Earl of Morton. He afterwards removed to a house in Prince's Street, where he became instrumental in raising the Earthen Mound, vulgarly called the "Mud Brig," the east side of which, where it was commenced, may be observed to be a little eastward of the line of Hanover Street, and opposite Provost Grieve's door, being particularly intended for the convenience of that gentleman. Mr Grieve died in May 1803.

No. LVII.

REV. HUGH BLAIR, D.D.

OF THE HIGH CHURCH, EDINBURGH.

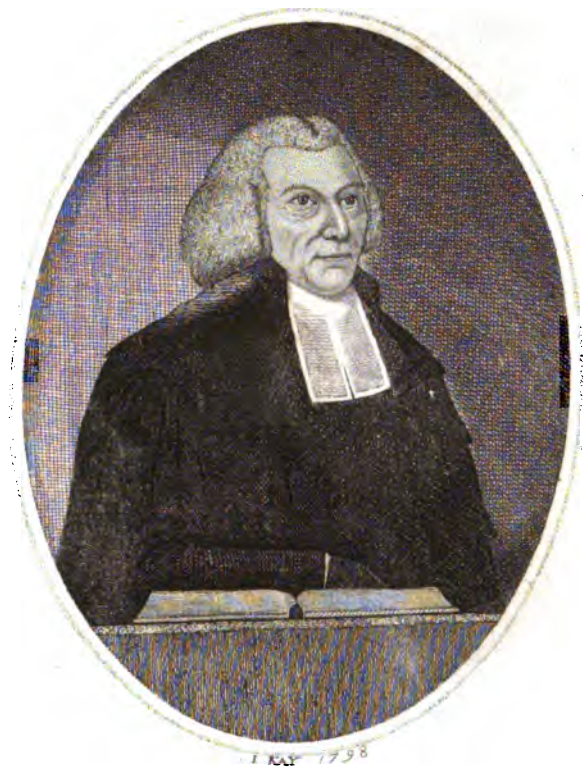
THE author of the "Lectures on Rhetoric and Belles Lettres," and of five volumes of universally admired Sermons, whose life and writings have done so much credit to the Scottish pulpit, was born at Edinburgh in 1718. His father was a merchant, and grandson to Robert Blair, an eminent Presbyterian "Scots Worthy" of the seventeenth century.*

Young Blair commenced his academical studies in 1730; and having been prevented by constitutional delicacy of health from participating much in the pastimes peculiar to youth, his devotion to the acquisition of knowledge became the more close and effective. His first striking demonstration of talent was exhibited in an "Essay on the Beautiful," written while a student of logic, and when only in his sixteenth year, which, as a mark of distinction, was ordered by Professor Stevenson to be publicly read at the end of the session.

In 1741, he was licensed by the Presbytery of Edinburgh; and his sermons being distinguished at the very outset for correctness of design, and that peculiar chastity of composition which so much distinguished his after productions, his talents as a preacher soon became the topic of public remark. His first charge was the parish of Colessie in Fife, presented to him by the Earl of Leven in 1742; but the very next year he was recalled to the metropolis, by being elected one of the ministers of the Canongate Church. Here, in 1745, on the breaking out of the Rebellion, he preached a sermon warmly in favour of the Hanoverian line, which was afterwards printed, and it is said had the effect of strengthening the loyalty of the people.

Blair continued in the Canongate eleven years, during which period he had the satisfaction of attracting an immense congregation from all quarters of the city, and found himself daily acquiring popularity. In 1754, he was called to

* In 1754 were published at Edinburgh, "Memoirs of the Life of Mr Robert Blair, Minister of the Gospel, sometime at Bangor in Ireland, and afterwards at St Andrews in Scotland: in two parts. The first part wrote by himself, and the second by Mr William Row, sometime Minister of the Gospel at Ceres." This work is exceedingly curious.





the pastorship of Lady Yester's Church by the Town Council of Edinburgh ; and again by the same body, in 1758, he was translated to one of the charges in the High Church. About the same period, the degree of D.D. was conferred upon him by the University of St Andrew's. In 1759, Dr Blair commenced the delivery of those lectures on " Rhetoric and the Belles Lettres," afterwards given to the public in a printed form, and which have since continued to hold precedence as a standard work on literary composition. The lectures were undertaken with the concurrence of the University ; and so popular did they at once become, that in 1761 the Town Council procured from Government an endowment of L.70 a-year towards instituting a rhetorical class in connexion with the College, of which Dr Blair was appointed Professor. Hitherto, except in the case of one or two sermons on particular occasions, which were printed, the Doctor had not appeared as an author before the world. The deep interest which he took, however, in the exertions of Macpherson to recover the traditional poetry of the Highlands, led him to publish, in 1763, " a Critical Dissertation on the Poems of Ossian," which was held by the advocates for their authenticity, to be one of the finest specimens of " critical composition in the English language."*

Although his style of pulpit oratory had become an object of very general imitation among the young clergy, and although he had been repeatedly urged to favour the world with some of those productions which had captivated so many hearers, it was not till 1777 that he was induced to think of publishing. In that year he transmitted the MS. of his first volume of sermons, through the medium of Mr Creech, to an eminent publisher in London, (Mr Strachan,) with a view to the disposing of the copyright. Strachan, presuming probably on a very general feeling of aversion then existing in the public mind towards clerical productions, sent a discouraging answer to Dr Blair. In the mean time the MS. had been handed to Dr Johnson for perusal, who, after Strachan's unfavourable letter had been despatched to the north, sent a note to the publisher, in which he says, " I have read over Dr Blair's first sermon with more than approbation ; to say it is good, is to say too little." This judgment, strengthened by a conversation afterwards held with Dr Johnson, soon convinced Mr Strachan of the error he had committed. He therefore wrote a second time to Dr Blair, inclosing Johnson's note, and agreeing, in conjunction with Mr Cadell and Mr Creech of Edinburgh, to purchase the volume for one hundred pounds.† The popularity of these sermons exceeded all antici-

* Dr Blair was the *first* person who introduced the Poems of Ossian to the notice of the world ; first, by the " Fragments of Ancient Poetry" which he published ; and next, by setting on foot an undertaking for collecting and publishing the entire poems. He used to boast of this, but he little dreamed that the lapse of a few years would produce so general a change in public opinion as to the authenticity of these remarkable productions.

† The MS. was first submitted to the perusal of Mr Creech, who was so highly taken with it, that he made an offer off-hand to the author of one hundred guineas. Dr Blair was so much struck with the amount, as to be almost incredulous of the verity of Mr Creech's offer. " Will you indeed !" was his exclamation.

pation ; so much so, that the publishers presented the author with two additional sums of money, by way of compliment. Not long after its first publication, the volume attracted the notice of George III. and his consort—a portion of the sermons, it is said, having been first read to their Majesties in the royal closet by the eloquent Earl of Mansfield. So highly did their Majesties esteem the merits of the author, that a pension of £200 was settled upon him. The Doctor afterwards published other three volumes of sermons, all of which met an equally flattering reception, and were translated into almost all the European languages.

Upon occasion of the publication of Dr Blair's Lectures, Logan the poet addressed a letter to Dr Gilbert Stuart, at that time editor of the "English Review and Political Herald," from which the following beautiful extracts have been taken :—

" Dr Blair's Lectures are to be published some time in spring. I need not tell you that I am very much interested in the fate and fame of all his works. Besides his literary merit, he hath borne his faculties so meekly in every situation, that he is entitled to favour as well as candour. He has never with pedantic authority opposed the career of other authors, but has, on the contrary, favoured every literary attempt. He has never studied to push himself immaturely into the notice of the world, but waited the call of the public for all his productions ; and now, when he retires from the republic of letters into the vale of ease, I cannot help wishing success to Fingal* in the last of his fields. * * * * Your influence to give Dr Blair his last passport to the public will be very agreeable to the *literati* here, and will be a particular favour done to me. It will still farther enhance the obligation if you will write me such a letter as I can show him, *to quiet his fears.*"

Dr Blair retired from the Professorship in 1788, in consequence of advanced age, and in a few years afterwards found himself also unable to discharge the duties of the pulpit. Such, however, was the vigour of his intellect, that in 1799, when past his eightieth year, he composed and preached one of the most effective sermons he ever delivered, in behalf of the Fund for the Benefit of the Sons of the Clergy, the subject of which was—"The compassionate beneficence of the Deity."

In addition to his acquirements in theology and general literature, Dr Blair was intimately acquainted with some of the sciences ; while it may be worthy of remark, he also indulged to a considerable extent in light reading. "The Arabian Nights' Entertainments," and "Don Quixote," were among his especial favourites. He was also an admirer of Mrs Anne Radcliffe's talents for romance, and honoured Mr Pratt's "Emma Corbett" with particular praise. In Church politics, although the Doctor took no active part, he was, like his intimate friend Principal Robertson, a decided Moderate, and was zealous to adopt any means of improving the worship of the Church of Scotland, where such

* This allusion, considering the share Dr Blair had in bringing the works of Ossian to light, is extremely appropriate.

could be done without an infringement of principle. With this view, during one of his visits to London, he procured singers from the Cathedral of York, by whose aid he originated an amendment in the conducting of the psalmody, which was at first looked upon as a daring innovation, but is now become pretty general throughout the Establishment.

There were some slight defects in the character of the Doctor, which have been admitted by his warmest friends—he was vain, and very susceptible of flattery. A gentleman one day met him on the street, and, in the course of conversation, mentioned that his friend Mr Donald Smith, banker, was anxious to secure a seat in the High Church, that he might become one of the Doctor's congregation. "Indeed," continued this person, "my friend is quite anxious on this subject. He has tried many preachers, but he finds your sermons, Doctor, so superior in the graces of oratory, and so full of pointed observation of the world, that he cannot think of settling under any other than you."—"I am very glad to hear that I am to have Mr Smith for a hearer," said the preacher with unconscious self-gratulation—"he is a very sensible man."

Dr Blair's "taste and accuracy in dress," continues our authority, "were absolutely ridiculous. There was a correctness in his wig, for instance, amounting to a hair-breadth exactness. He was so careful about his coat, that not content with merely looking at himself in the mirror to see how it fitted in general, he would cause the tailor to lay the looking-glass on the floor, and then standing on tiptoe over it, he would peep athwart his shoulder *to see how the skirts hung*. It is also yet remembered in Edinburgh, with what a self-satisfied and finical air this great divine used to walk between his house and the church every Sunday morning, on his way to perform service. His wig frizzed and powdered so nicely—his gown so scrupulously arranged on his shoulders—his bands so pure and clean—and every thing about him in such exquisite taste and neatness."

Upon one occasion, while sitting for his portrait, he requested the painter to draw his face with a *pleasing smile*. The painter replied, "Well, then, you must *put on a pleasing smile*." The Doctor, in attempting to do this, made a most horrid *grin*, which, being immediately transferred to the canvass, gave his effigy the appearance of that of a downright idiot. This effect being pointed out to him by a friend, he immediately ordered the painting to be destroyed, and a new one forthwith commenced, the Doctor contenting himself with having it executed without the "*pleasing smile*."

During the latter part of his life almost all strangers of distinction who visited Edinburgh brought letters of introduction to Dr Blair; and as he was quite at ease in point of worldly circumstances, and had then in a great measure ceased to study intensely, he in general entertained them frequently and well. On one of these occasions, when he had collected a considerable party at dinner to meet an English clergyman, a Scotsman present asked the stranger what was thought of the Doctor's sermons by his professional brethren in the south? To his horror, and to the mortification of Mrs Blair, who sat near, and who looked upon her

husband as a sort of divinity, the Englishman answered, "Why, they are not partial to them at all."—"How, sir," faltered out the querist—"how should that be?"—"Why," replied the southron, "because they are so much read, and so generally known, that our clergymen can't borrow from them." The whole company, hitherto in a state of considerable embarrassment, were quite delighted at this ingenious and well-turned compliment.

Dr Blair died in the 83d year of his age, on the 27th December 1800. He was buried in the Greyfriars' Churchyard—the Westminster Abbey of Scotland—where a tablet to his memory, containing a highly elegant and classical Latin inscription, is affixed to the southern wall of the church. He married, in 1748, his cousin, Katherine Bannatyne, daughter of the Reverend James Bannatyne, one of the ministers of Edinburgh, by whom he had a son and daughter. The former died in infancy, and the latter when about twenty-one years of age. Mrs Blair also died a few years previous to the demise of her husband. Dr Blair's usual place of residence in summer was at Restalrig—in winter in Argyle Square.

No. LVIII.

THE HONOURABLE HENRY ERSKINE,

DEAN OF THE FACULTY OF ADVOCATES.

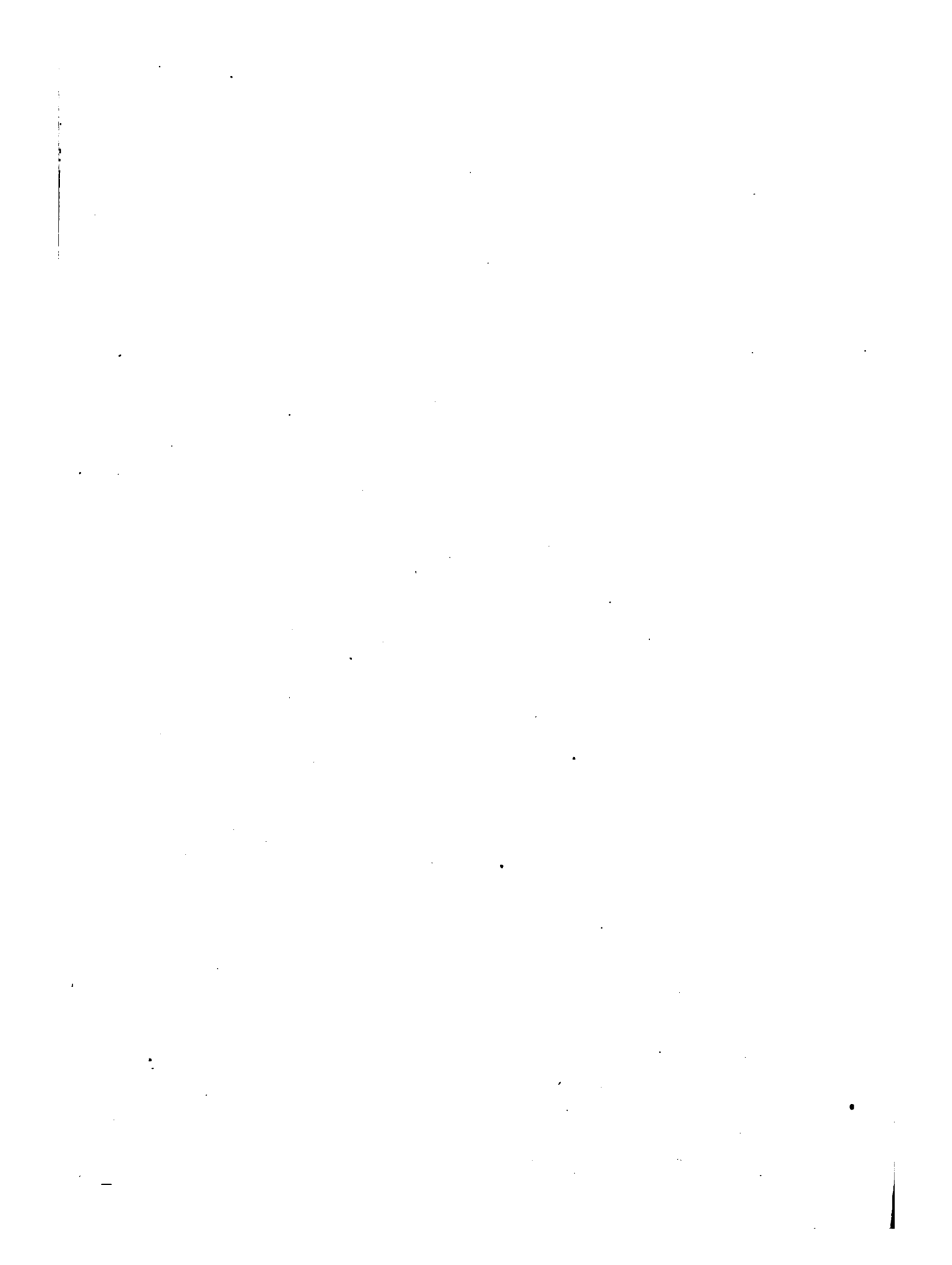
MR ERSKINE, in consequence of holding an appointment from the Prince of Wales, generally presided at the anniversary meeting of his Royal Highness's household in Edinburgh on the 12th of August;* hence the reason why Kay has placed the Prince's coronet at the bottom of the Print. The motto, "*Seria mixta jocis*," is in allusion to the uncommon humour and vivacity which characterised his legal pleadings.

The Hon. Henry Erskine was the third son of Henry David, tenth Earl of Buchan, by Agnes, daughter of Sir James Stewart of Goodtrees, and was born at Edinburgh on the 1st November 1746. His patrimony was trifling, and had it not been for the exemplary kindness of his eldest brother, who took a paternal charge both of Henry and his younger brother Thomas, afterwards Lord Erskine, he would not have been able to defray the expenses attendant upon the course of study requisite to be followed in order to qualify him for the bar. In the year 1765, Mr Erskine was admitted a member of the Faculty of Advocates. He had previously prepared himself for *extempore* speaking, by attending the Forum

* On one of these occasions, while a gentleman was singing after dinner, the Prince's tobacconist accompanied the song with his fingers upon the *wainscoting* of the room, in a very accurate manner. When the music finished, the chairman said, "He thought the Prince's tobacconist would make a capital *King's counsel*." On being asked "Why?" Harry replied, "Because I never heard a man make so much of a *pannel*."



Seria mixta jocus



Debating Society established in Edinburgh, in which he gave promise of that eminence as a pleader which he afterwards attained.

The brilliant talents of Mr Erskine soon placed him at the head of his profession. His legal services were as much at the command of the poor as of the wealthy, and he gratuitously devoted his abilities in behalf of any individual whom he believed to be ill-used, with greater zeal than if he had been amply remunerated for his exertions. So well was this benevolent trait in his character known, that it was said of him by a poor man who lived in a remote district of Scotland, when a friend would have dissuaded him from entering into a certain lawsuit, "There's no a puir man in a' Scotland need to want a friend or fear an enemy, sae lang as Harry Erskine's to the fore."

During the Coalition Administration, Mr Erskine held the office of Lord Advocate of Scotland. He succeeded Henry Dundas, (afterwards Lord Melville.) On the morning of the appointment he had an interview with Dundas in the Outer-House; when, observing that the latter gentleman had already resumed the ordinary stuff-gown which advocates are in the custom of wearing, he said gaily that he "must leave off talking, to go and order his silk gown," (the official costume of the Lord Advocate and Solicitor General.)—"It is hardly worth while," said Mr Dundas, drily, "for the time you will want it—you had better borrow mine." Erskine's reply was exceedingly happy—"From the readiness with which you make the offer, Mr Dundas, I have no doubt that the gown is a gown made to *fit any party*; but however short my time in office may be, it shall ne'er be said of Henry Erskine that he put on the *abandoned habits* of his predecessor." The prediction of Mr Dundas proved true, however; for Erskine held office only for a very short period, in consequence of a sudden change of Ministry. He was succeeded by Ilay Campbell, Esq., afterwards Lord President of the Court of Session, to whom he said, upon resigning his gown, "My Lord, you must take nothing *off it*, for I'll soon need it again." To which Mr Campbell replied, "It will be *bare enough*, Harry, before you get it." On the return of the Whigs to power in 1806, Mr Erskine once more became Lord Advocate, and was at the same time returned member for the Dumfries district of burghs. But this Administration being of short duration, he was again deprived of office.

After a long, laborious, and brilliant professional career, extending over a period of forty-four years, Mr Erskine retired from public life to his villa of Amondell in West Lothian, where he died on the 8th of October 1817, in the seventy-first year of his age.

In person Mr Erskine was above the middle size, and eminently handsome. His voice was powerful—his manner of delivery peculiarly graceful—his enunciation accurate and distinct—qualities which greatly added to the effect of his oratory.

Mr Erskine's first wife (Miss Fullerton) was a lady of somewhat eccentric habits—she not unfrequently employed half of the night in examining the family wardrobe, to see that nothing was missing. On one of these occasions, she

awoke her husband in the middle of the night, by putting to him the appalling interrogatory, " Harry, love, where's your white waistcoat ?"*

While Mr Erskine practised at the bar, it was his frequent custom to walk after the rising of the Court, to the Meadows, and he was often accompanied by Lord Balmuto, one of the judges—a very good kind of man, but not particularly quick in the perception of the ludicrous. His lordship never could discover, at first, the point of Mr Erskine's wit, and after walking a mile or two perhaps, and long after Mr Erskine had forgotten the saying, he would suddenly cry out, " I have you now, Harry—I have you now, Harry !" stopping and bursting into an immoderate fit of laughter.

With all the liveliness of fancy, however, and with all these shining talents, Mr Erskine's habits were domestic in an eminent degree. His wishes and desires are pleasingly depicted in the following lines by himself:—

" Let sparks and toppers o'er their bottles sit,
 Tom bumpers down, and fancy laughter wit ;
 Let cautious plodders, o'er their ledger pore,
 Note down each farthing gain'd, and wish it more ;
 Let lawyers dream of wigs, poets of fame,
 Scholars look learn'd, and senators declaim ;
 Let soldiers stand, like targets in the fray,
 Their lives just worth their thirteenspence a-day.
 Give me a nook in some secluded spot,
 Which business shuns, and din approaches not—
 Some snug retreat, where I may never know
 What Monarch reigns, what Ministers bestow—
 A book—my slippers—and a field to stroll in—
 My garden-seat—an elbow-chair to loll in—
 Sunshine, when wanted—shade, when shade invites—
 With pleasant country laurels, smells, and sights,
 And now and then a glass of generous wine,
 Shared with a chatty friend of 'auld langryne ;'
 And one companion more, for ever nigh,
 To sympathize in all that passes by,
 To journey with me in the path of life,
 And share its pleasures, and divide its strife.
 These simple joys, Eugenius, let me find,
 And I'll ne'er cast a lingering look behind."

Mr Erskine was long a member of the Scottish Antiquarian Society. One of the members remarked to him that he was a very bad attender of their meetings, adding, at same time, that he never gave any donations to the Society. A short time afterwards he wrote a letter to the Secretary apologising for not attending the meetings, and stating that he had " inclosed a donation, which, if you keep long enough, will be the greatest curiosity you have !"—This was a guinea of George III.

* The relater of this anecdote thus incidentally speaks of his reminiscences of Mr Erskine, as he appeared in his retreat at Amondell:—" I recollect the very gray hat that he used to wear, with a bit of the rim torn, and the pepper-and-salt short coat, and the white neckcloth sprinkled with snuff."

He had an inveterate propensity for puns. A person once said to him that punning was the lowest species of wit, to which he replied, "Then it must be the best species, since it is the *foundation* of the whole."

Mr Erskine meeting an old friend one morning returning from St Bernard's Well, which he knew he was in the habit of daily visiting, exclaimed, "Oh, S——e! I see you never weary in *well-doing*."

Being told that Knox, who had long derived his livelihood by keeping the door of the Parliament-House, had been killed by a shot from a small *cannon* on the King's birthday, he observed that "it was remarkable a man should *live* by the *civil*, and *die* by the *canon law*."

Lord Kellie was once amusing his company with an account of a sermon he had heard in a church in Italy, in which the priest related the miracle of St Anthony, when preaching on shipboard, attracting the fishes, which, in order to listen to his pious discourse, held their heads out of the water. "I can well believe the miracle," said Mr Henry Erskine. "How so?"—"When your lordship was at church, there was at least one fish out of the water."

Mr Erskine of Alva, a Scotch advocate, afterwards one of the Senators of the College of Justice, and who assumed the title of Lord Barjarg, a man of diminutive stature, was retained as counsel in a very interesting cause, wherein the Hon. Henry Erskine appeared for the opposite party. The crowd in court being very great, in order to enable young *Alva* to be seen and heard more advantageously, a *chair* was brought him to *stand* upon. Mr Erskine quaintly remarked, "That is one way of *rising* at the bar."

An English nobleman, walking through the New Town in company with Mr Erskine, remarked how odd it was that St Andrew's Church should so greatly *project*, whilst the Physicians' Hall, immediately opposite, equally *receded*. Mr Erskine admitted that George Street would have been, without exception, the finest street in Europe, if the *forwardness* of the *clergy*, and the *backwardness* of the *physicians*, had not marred its *uniformity*.

One day Mr Erskine was dining at the house of Mr William Creech, book-seller, who was rather penurious, and entertained his guests on that occasion with a single bottle of *Cape wine*, though he boasted of some particularly fine *Madeira wine* he happened to possess. Mr Erskine made various attempts to induce his host to produce a bottle of his vaunted Madeira, but to no purpose; at length he said, with an air of apparent disappointment, "Well, well, since we can't get to *Madeira*, we must just *double the Cape*."

In his latter years Mr Erskine was very much annoyed at the idea that his witticisms might be collected together in a volume. Aware of this, a friend of his resolved to tease him, and having invited him to dinner, he, in the course of the evening, took up a goodly looking volume, and turning over the pages began to laugh heartily. "What is the cause of your merriment?" exclaimed the guest. "Oh, it's only one of your jokes, Harry."—"Where did you get it?"—"Oh, in the new work just published, entitled *The New Complete Jester*, or

every man his own Harry Erskine!" Mr Erskine felt very much amazed, as may be supposed, upon the announcement of the fictitious publication.

Mr Erskine was twice married, and by his first marriage he had the present Earl of Buchan, Major Erskine, and two daughters: one married to the late Colonel Callender of Craigforth, and another to Dr Smith. By his second wife, Miss Munro, (who still survives,) he had no issue.

No. LIX.

JAMES BRUCE, ESQ. OF KINNAIRD,

AND

PETER WILLIAMSON.

THIS rencontre, which happened only a short time after Mr Bruce published his travels, is said to have taken place at the Cross of Edinbwrgh, where the parties represented were seen by Kay in conversation, although he has ingeniously placed them on the hillock alluded to by Mr Bruce, from whence proceeded the principal fountain of the Nile.

The first figure in the print is JAMES BRUCE of Kinnaird, the Abyssinian traveller. He was born on the 14th December 1730, at Kinnaird, in the county of Stirling, and was eldest son of David Bruce of Kinnaird,* by Marion, daughter of James Graham of Airth, Judge of the High Court of Admiralty in Scotland.

At the age of eight years, Bruce, who was then rather of a weakly habit and gentle disposition, though afterwards remarkable for robustness of body and boldness of mind, was sent to London to the care of an uncle. Here he remained until he had attained his twelfth year, when he was removed to Harrow, where he won the esteem of his instructors by his amiable temper and extraordinary aptitude for learning. In 1747, he returned to Kinnaird, with the reputation of a first-rate scholar. It having been determined that he should prepare himself for the Bar, he, for that purpose, attended the usual classes in the University of Edinburgh; but finding legal pursuits not suited to his disposition, it was resolved that he should proceed to India. With this intention he went to London in 1753; but while waiting for permission from the East India Company to settle there as a free trader, he became acquainted with Adriana Allan, the daughter of a deceased wine-merchant,

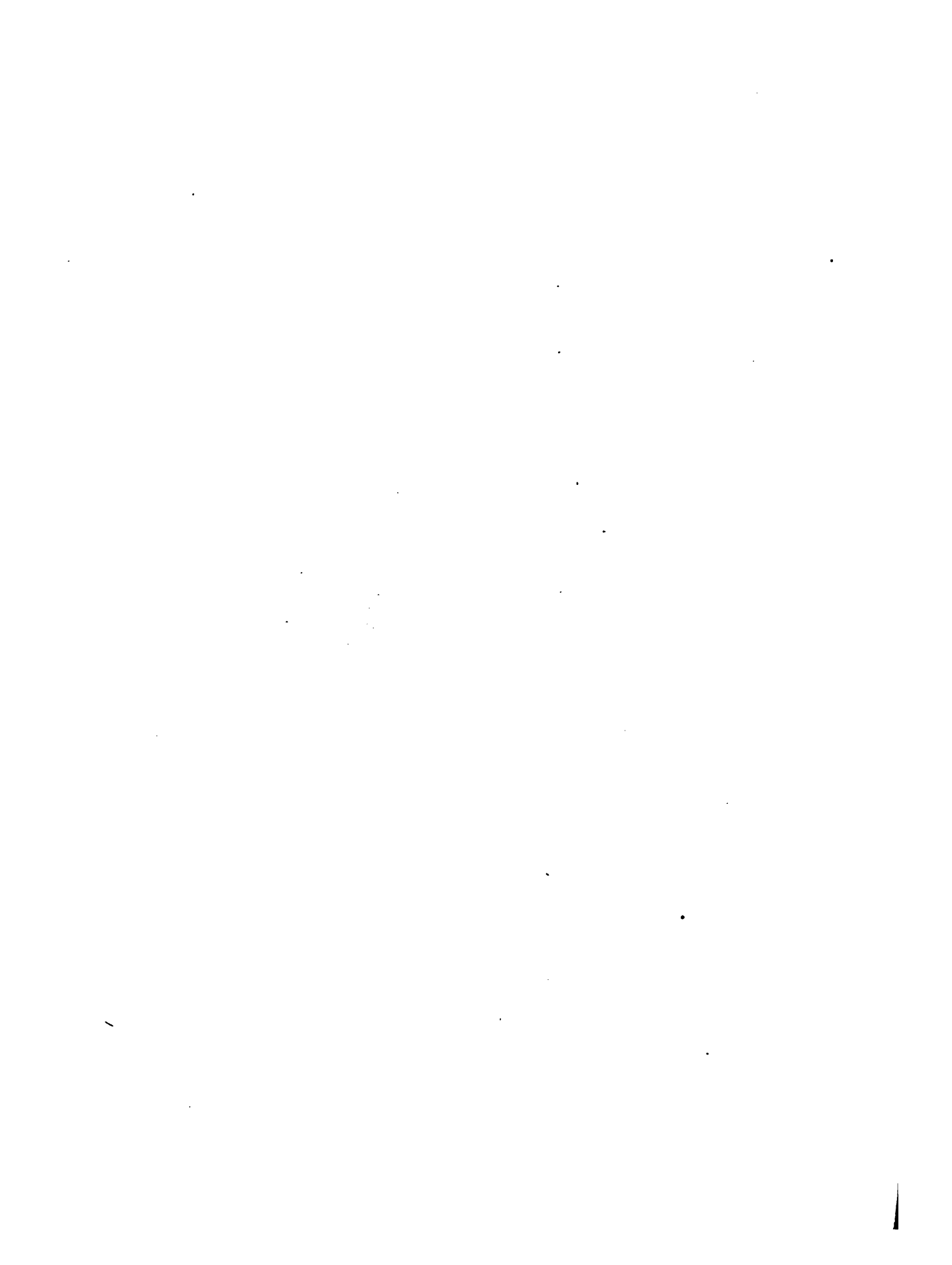
* This estate was acquired by his grandfather, David Hay of Woodcockdale, who, on marrying Helen Bruce, the heiress of Kinnaird, assumed the name and arms of Bruce. The immediate founder of the Kinnaird family was Robert, the second son of Sir Alexander Bruce of Airth, by a daughter of the fifth Lord Livingston, who became one of the most zealous ministers of the Reformed Church of Scotland, was much in the confidence of James the Sixth, and had the honour of placing the crown on the head of his Queen on her arrival from Denmark.

Travells Eldest Son in Conversation with a Cherokee Chief.



How dare you approach me with your travells. There is not a single word of them true. There you may be right, and altho I never dined upon the Lion or eat half a Cow and turned the rest to grafs, yet my works have been of more use to mankind than yours and there is more truth in one page of my Edin.' directory than in all your five Volumes &c. So when you talk to me dont imagine yourself at the Source of the Nile:

J. Kay Del. et Sculp. Published as the Act Directs 1771



whom he married, and, abandoning the idea of India, embarked in the excellent business left by his father-in-law. The death of his wife, however, which took place, soon after their marriage, at Paris, whither he had taken her for the recovery of her health, again altered Bruce's destiny. Deeply affected by her loss, he first devolved the cares of his business on his partner, and soon afterwards withdrew from the concern altogether.

Some time subsequent to these occurrences, Bruce had become acquainted with Lord Halifax, who suggested to him that his talents might be successfully exerted in making discoveries in Africa; and, to give him every facility, his Lordship proposed to appoint him consul at Algiers. He repaired to his post in 1763, where he employed himself a year in the study of the Oriental languages; and this appointment was the first step to the discovery of the source of the Nile.

As our readers must be familiar with the perilous adventures of this traveller, as depicted by himself in one of the most entertaining works in our language, it would be altogether idle to attempt any abridgement of them. After many hair-breadth escapes, and overcoming many difficulties both by sea and land, Bruce returned in safety to Marseilles in March 1773, and was received with marked consideration at the French court.*

On his arrival in Great Britain he had an audience of George the Third, to whom he presented drawings of Palmyra, Baalbec, and other cities, with which he had promised to furnish his Majesty previous to his departure. It had been insinuated that Mr Bruce was an indifferent draughtsman, and that the drawings which he had brought home were not done by himself, but by the artist he had taken along with him. This charge was perfectly untrue, although it derived some countenance from his declining to comply with a request of the King, that he should draw Kew. When he had submitted the above-mentioned draughts, his Majesty said, "Very well, very well, Bruce; the colours are fine, very fine—you must make me one—yes; you must make me one of Kew!" Bruce evaded compliance by saying, "I would with the greatest pleasure obey your Majesty, but here I cannot get such colours."

It was not until seventeen years after his return to Europe, that he gave that work to the world which has perpetuated his name. It appeared in 1790, and consisted of four large quarto volumes, besides a volume of drawings, and was entitled, "Travels to Discover the Source of the Nile, in the years 1768-69-70-71-72-73. By James Bruce of Kinnaird, Esq., F.R.S." †

* There is in the museum at Kinnaird a very fine quadrant, with an inscription, as a present from the King of France. Mr Bruce retained such a strong remembrance of the kindness shown him by Louis XVI., that when he heard of the King's tragical end, in January 1793, his feelings were so much overpowered that he cried like a child.

† The long interval that elapsed between the period of his return and the publication of his travels, had induced many people to pretend that he had nothing worth while communicating to the world. This malicious report was mentioned to him by a friend. He replied, "James, *let them say*, as my maternal grand-aunt said. You have," continued he, "no doubt seen that inscription upon Airth—are you acquainted with its origin?"—"No," was the rejoinder. "Then," said he, "I'll tell you. My grand-uncle was amongst others a great sufferer during the Usurpation, and, owing to his adherence to the Stuarts, was obliged to fly to Sweden. His wife, by her judicious management, and by carrying on

The singular incidents detailed in these Travels—the habits of life there described, so totally unlike any thing previously known in Europe—and the style of romantic adventure which characterised the work—led many persons to distrust its authenticity, and even to doubt whether its author ever had been in Abyssinia at all. Those doubts found their way into the critical journals of the day,* but the proud spirit of Bruce disdained to make any reply. To his daughter alone he opened his heart on this vexatious subject; and to her he often said, “The world is strangely mistaken in my character, by supposing that I would condescend to write a romance for its amusement. I shall not live to witness it; but you probably will see the truth of all I have written completely and decisively confirmed.”

So it has happened. Recent travellers have established the authenticity of Bruce beyond cavil or dispute. Dr Clark, in particular, states, in the sixth volume of his Travels, that he and some other men of science, when at Cairo, examined an ancient Abyssinian priest—who perfectly recollected Bruce at the court of Gondar—on various disputed passages of the work, which were confirmed even in the most minute particular; and he concludes this curious investigation by observing, that he scarcely believes any other book of travels could have stood such a test. Sir David Baird, while commanding the British troops embarked on the Red Sea, publicly declared that the safety of the army was mainly owing to the accuracy of Mr Bruce’s chart of that sea, which some of the critics of the day ventured to insinuate he had never visited. On this subject Bruce is strikingly corroborated by that well-known traveller, Lieutenant Burnes. In a letter written from the Red Sea, so lately as 1835, he says—“I cannot quit Bruce without mentioning a fact which I have gathered here, and which ought to be known far and wide in justice to the memory of a great and injured man, whose deeds I admired when a boy, and whose book is a *true* romance. Lord Valentia calls Bruce’s voyage to the Red Sea an episodic fiction, because he is wrong in the latitude of an island called ‘Macowar,’ which Bruce says he had visited. Now this sea has been surveyed for the first time, and there are two islands called ‘Macowar;’ the one in latitude 23° 50′, *visited by Bruce*, and the other in latitude 20° 45′, visited by Valentia! Only think of this vindication of Bruce’s memory! Major Head knew it not when he wrote his *Life*, and it is worth a thousand pages of defence.”

The following rather amusing anecdote is told of Bruce:—It is said that once, when on a visit to a relative in East-Lothian, a person present observed it was “*impossible*” that the natives of Abyssinia could eat raw meat. Bruce very quietly left the room, and shortly afterwards returned from the kitchen with a raw beef-steak, peppered and salted in the Abyssinian fashion. “You will

a small trade in the coal line, made a considerable fortune, and built the wing of the house at Airth, now standing. Some evil-minded persons chose to insinuate that she had acquired this fortune in a way not very creditable to her chastity. Treating this slander with the contempt it merited, she, with conscious innocence, caused the inscription of ‘*let them say*,’ to be placed over the door.”

* The amusing “*Adventures of Baron Munchausen*” were written purposely in ridicule of him, and were received by the public as a just satire on his work.

be pleased to eat this," he said, " or fight me." The gentleman preferred the former alternative, and with no good grace contrived to swallow the proffered delicacy. When he had finished, Bruce calmly observed, " Now, sir, you will never again say it is *impossible*."

Bruce was a man of uncommonly large stature, six feet four inches, and latterly very corpulent. With a turban on his head, and a long staff in his hand, he usually travelled about his grounds; and his gigantic figure in these excursions is still remembered in the neighbourhood. On the 20th of May 1776, he took as his second wife, Mary, daughter of Thomas Dundas of Fingask, by Lady Janet Maitland, daughter of Charles sixth Earl of Lauderdale.

On the 26th of April 1794, after entertaining a large party to dinner, as he was hurrying to assist a lady to her carriage, his foot slipped, and he fell headlong from the sixth or seventh step of the large staircase to the lobby. He was taken up in a state of insensibility, though without any visible contusion, and died early next morning in the sixty-fourth year of his age.

Thus he who had undergone such dangers, and was placed often in such imminent peril, lost his life by an accidental fall. He left, by his second marriage, a son and a daughter. His son succeeded him in his paternal estate, and died in 1810, leaving an only daughter, who married Charles Cumming of Roseilse, a younger son of the family of Altyre, who assumed the name of Bruce, and is presently member of Parliament for the Inverness district of burghs. His daughter, who survived him many years, became the wife of John Jardine, Esq., advocate, sheriff of Ross and Cromarty.

Bruce took with him in his travels a telescope so large that it required six men to carry it. He assigned the following reason to a friend by whom the anecdote was communicated:—" That, exclusive of its utility, it inspired the nations through which he passed with great awe, as they thought he had some immediate connexion with Heaven, and they paid more attention to it than they did to himself."

PETER WILLIAMSON, the second figure in this Print, was born of poor parents at Hirnley, in the parish of Aboyne, county of Aberdeen, North Britain. When still very young he was sent to reside with an aunt in Aberdeen, as he tells us in his autobiography,* " where, at eight years of age, playing one day on the quay with others of my companions, I was taken notice of by two fellows belonging to a vessel in the harbour, employed, as the trade then was, by some of the worthy merchants of the town, in that villanous and execrable practice called kidnapping; that is, stealing young children from their parents, and selling them as slaves in the plantations abroad. Being marked out by these monsters as their prey, I was cajoled on board the ship by them, where

* *Vide* " French and Indian Cruelty, exemplified in the Life and various Vicissitudes of Fortune of Peter Williamson, &c., dedicated to the Right Hon. William Pitt, Esq. Written by himself. Third edition, with considerable improvements. Glasgow: printed by J. Bryce and D. Paterson, for the benefit of the unfortunate Author, 1758."

I was no sooner got than they conducted me between the decks to some others they had kidnapped in the same manner."

Neither Williamson nor any of his fellow-captives were permitted again to get on deck, and in about a month afterwards the ship sailed for America. On arriving on the coast of that country she was assailed by a storm, and driven in the middle of the night on a sand-bank off Cape May, near the Cape of Delaware, and in a short time filled with water. The ruffian crew, hoisting out their boats, made their escape to land, leaving the poor boys to their fate in the vessel. Fortunately, she held together till the following morning, when the Captain sent some of his men on board to bring the boys, and as much of the cargo as they could, on shore, where Williamson and his fellow-captives remained in a sort of camp for three weeks, when they were taken to Philadelphia, and there sold at about L.16 per head. Williamson was separated from his companions, and from this time never heard any more of them. He was himself fortunate enough to fall into the hands of an excellent master, a humane and worthy man. This person was a countryman of his own of the name of Wilson, from Perth, who had himself been kidnapped in his youth. With this man Williamson lived very happily, and much at his ease, till the death of the former, which occurred a few years afterwards, when he was left by him, as a reward for his faithful services, the sum of L.120 in money, his best horse, saddle, and all his wearing-apparel.

Our hero, who was only in his seventeenth year, being now his own master, employed himself in such country work as offered for the succeeding seven years, when, thinking he had acquired sufficient means to enable him to settle respectably in life, he married the daughter of a substantial planter, and was presented by his father-in-law with a deed of gift of a tract of land, comprising about 200 acres, situated on the frontiers of the province of Pennsylvania.

On this property there was a good house, which he furnished; and having stocked his farm, he sat down with the prospect of leading a peaceable and happy life—but these prospects were soon destroyed. As Williamson was sitting up one night later than usual, expecting the return of his wife, who had gone on a visit to her relations, he was suddenly alarmed by hearing the well-known and fatal war-whoop of the Indians. These dreadful sounds proceeded from a party of savages, to the number of twelve, who had surrounded his house for the purpose of robbery and murder. On hearing the ominous cry, Williamson seized a loaded gun, and at first endeavoured to scare away his horrible assailants, who were now attempting to beat in the door, by threatening to fire on them. But heedless of his menaces, and in their turn threatening to set fire to his house and burn him alive if he did not instantly surrender, he at length yielded, and, on promise of having his life spared, came out as they desired. Having got the unfortunate man into their power, the savages bound him to a tree, near his own door, plundered his house, and then set it on fire, together with his out-houses, barns, and stables, consuming all his grain, cattle, horses, and sheep; and thus, almost instantaneously, reducing him from a state of independence and comfort to one of beggary and misery. Having completed their diabolical work,

one of the savages, advancing with uplifted tomahawk, threatened him with instant death if he did not cheerfully and willingly accompany them. Having consented to what he could not resist, they untied him, and loading him with the plunder of his own house, set off on their march homeward.

At daybreak, after having travelled all night, the savages ordered Williamson to lay down his load, when they again tied him to a tree by the hands, and so tightly, that the small cord with which he was bound forced the blood from his finger-ends. The wretches then kindled a fire close by their victim, who had no doubt that it was intended to roast him alive, and began dancing around him with the most hideous yells and gestures. Having satisfied themselves with this pastime, they each snatched a stick from the fire, and began to apply their burning ends to various parts of his body, causing him the greatest torture. Of this cruelty, they at length tired, and unbinding the wretched captive, gave him a portion of some victuals which they had hastily cooked. They then again fastened him to a tree, to which they kept him bound till night, when they resumed their march, loading him with their booty as before. The savages now proceeded towards the Blue Hills, where, having hid their plunder, they attacked the house of a settler named Snider, and having found admission, they scalped himself, his wife, and five children, and finally set fire to their dwelling, having previously plundered it. The only individual spared was a young man, a servant in the house, whom they thought might be useful to them. Having perpetrated this atrocious deed, they loaded Williamson and the young man whose life they had spared, with their booty, and again directed their steps towards the Blue Hills.

During this march, Williamson's companion in misfortune continuing, notwithstanding all the former could say to him, to bemoan his situation so loudly as to attract the notice of the savages, one of them came up to him, and struck the unhappy young man a blow on the head with his tomahawk, which instantly killed him. They then scalped him, and left him where he fell.

The savages next proceeded to the house of another settler named Adams, where they perpetrated similar atrocities, murdering his wife and four children, burning his house, corn, hay, and cattle. Adams himself, however, a feeble old man, they reserved for further cruelties. Having loaded him with the plunder of his own house, he was marched along with them, and on their arriving at the Great Swamp, where they remained for eight or nine days, was subjected to every species of torture which savage ingenuity could suggest. At one time they amused themselves by pulling the old man's beard out by the root; at another, by tying him to a tree and flogging him with great severity; and again, scorching his face and legs with red-hot coals. While in this encampment, the savages with whom Williamson was captive were joined by another party, who brought along with them three prisoners and twenty scalps.

These unhappy men, who gave Williamson and his companion in misfortune, Adams, the most shocking accounts of the barbarities that had been practised by the party into whose hands they had fallen, having subsequently attempted to escape, were retaken, and put to the most cruel deaths.

From their present quarters the savages, still carrying Williamson along with them, proceeded two hundred miles farther into the interior, where their wigwams, wives, and children were. Here Williamson was detained for two months, suffering severely from cold and hunger, as the Indians paid no attention to his comforts, but left him to shift for himself as he best could, always taking care, however, that he should not escape them. At length another expedition against the whites having been determined on, the Indians, who, by various additions to their numbers, now amounted to about 150, began their march, taking Williamson along with them towards the back parts of the province of Pennsylvania.

On arriving at the Blue Hills, Williamson was left there with ten Indians, it not being deemed safe to take him nearer the plantations, to await the return of the main body. Here Williamson began to meditate an escape, and watching an opportunity one night when his guard were asleep, having previously assured himself that they were so, by gently touching their feet as they lay around the fire, he softly withdrew, after having vainly attempted to possess himself of one of their guns, which they always kept beneath their heads when they slept. Williamson's terror was so great lest he should be discovered, that he stopped as he was retreating every four or five paces, and looked fearfully towards the spot where his savage masters were lying; seeing, however, no motion amongst them, he gradually mended his pace, and had gained a considerable distance, when he suddenly heard the war-cry of the savages, who had missed their captive, and were now in pursuit of him.

The terror of Williamson, on hearing these appalling sounds, increased his speed. He rushed wildly on through woods and over rocks, falling and bruising himself severely, and cutting his feet and legs in a miserable manner; but he eventually succeeded in eluding the vigilance of his pursuers. Continuing his flight until daybreak, he then crept into the hollow of a tree, but was here again alarmed by hearing the voices of the savages in his immediate vicinity, loudly talking of how they should treat him if he again fell into their hands. They, however, did not discover him, and soon after left the spot.

Williamson remained in his concealment till nightfall, when he again set out on his perilous journey, hiding himself in trees by day, and prosecuting his march by night. On one occasion during his route, he unknowingly approached so near a bivouac of savages, that the rustling he made amongst the trees alarmed them, when, starting from the ground and seizing their arms, they began to search around for the cause of the noise they had heard. Fortunately for Williamson, who stood stock-still, petrified with fear, a herd of wild swine at this critical moment made their appearance near the spot, when the savages thinking that they had been the cause of their alarm, gave up their search and returned to their fire. On observing this, Williamson recommenced his journey, and finally arrived in safety at his father-in-law's, on the 4th January 1755, where he learned that his wife had died two months before.

Soon after his arrival, Williamson was called before the State Assembly, then sitting at Philadelphia discussing measures for checking the depredations of

the savages, to communicate such intelligence regarding them as his experience had put him in possession of, and ultimately entered himself a volunteer in one of the regiments raised to serve against the French and Indians.

In this service, during which he was engaged in numerous skirmishes, he remained three years, having previously obtained the rank of Lieutenant, when he was taken prisoner by the French on the surrender of Oswego, marched to Quebec with other prisoners, and there embarked, according to stipulation, on board the *La Renomme*, a French packet-boat, for Plymouth, where he arrived on the 6th of November 1756. In about five months after, Williamson, with a party who had been quartered with him at Kingsbridge, were ordered to Plymouth Dock to be drafted into other regiments, but on being inspected he was found unfit for service, in consequence of a wound he had received in one of his hands, and was discharged.

On receiving his discharge, Williamson, who was now entirely destitute of means, being possessed of no more than six shillings, which had been allowed by Government to carry him home, proceeded to York. He there submitted the manuscript of his adventures amongst the Indians to some benevolent persons, who recommended its publication, and having by this means raised a little money, he set out for Aberdeen, where he arrived in June 1758. But although now in his native place, his misfortunes had not yet terminated.

The little volume of his adventures which he had published at York, contained some reflections on the characters of the merchants of Aberdeen, implicating them in the practice of kidnapping, of which Williamson had himself been a victim. He had no sooner offered the work for sale in the traduced city, than he was called before the magistrates to answer to a complaint of libel on the character and reputation of the merchants of Aberdeen; and he was ordered to sign a recantation, of what they called his calumnies, on pain of imprisonment, and was appointed to find caution to stand trial on the complaint, at any time when called for, and to be confined in jail till performance.

To this judgment was added an order, that all his books should be forthwith lodged in the clerk's chamber. His books were accordingly seized, the offensive leaves cut out, and burned at the market-cross by the hands of the common hangman. Williamson was subsequently amerced in the sum of ten shillings, and finally banished the city as a vagrant.

By the advice and assistance of some friends, however, he afterwards raised a process of oppression and damages against the magistrates of Aberdeen before the Court of Session, and ultimately obtained damages to the amount of L.100, with all the costs of process.

Previously to his obtaining this judgment, Williamson had settled in Edinburgh, where he first kept a tavern,* then became a bookseller, printer, publisher, and projector. He appears some time before this to have published in York,

* Peter's tavern, or coffee-house, was situated in the Old Parliament Close. On his sign-board he designated himself "from the other world."

In the month of November 1777, he married Jean Wilson, daughter of John Wilson, bookseller in Edinburgh, a connexion which, as will immediately be seen, turned out to be a very unfortunate one.

Williamson had the merit of establishing the first Penny-Post in Edinburgh. He also published a Directory, "which he sold at his General Penny-Post Office, Luckenbooths." The copy before us, for 1788, is dedicated to the Lord Provost and Magistrates of Edinburgh; and the following dedicatory epistle is prefixed:—

"MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN—At the earnest request of a respectable part of the inhabitants of Edinburgh, I have been induced once more to make an actual survey of the city and its much-extended suburbs, and to publish a Directory for the present year.

"The patronage I have always received from the Magistrates of Edinburgh I acknowledge with gratitude; and I flatter myself they will approve of the present publication.

"That the city may flourish to the remotest ages—that the noble efforts made by the present Chief Magistrate for its embellishment, the convenience of its inhabitants, and for the desirable object of making the port and harbour of Leith (so intimately connected with the city) more extensive and commodious for trade, may be crowned with success—is the sincere wish of,

"MY LORDS and GENTLEMEN,

"Your most obedient humble servant,

"P. WILLIAMSON."

At this period his wife and daughter appear to have contributed their assistance to the maintenance of the family, as the following notice is printed on the cover of the Directory:—

"MRS WILLIAMSON AND DAUGHTER;

at their House, first fore stair above the head of Byres's Close, Luckenbooths, Engraft Silk, Cotton, Thread, and Worsted Stockings, make Silk Gloves, and every article in the engrafting branch, in the neatest manner, and on the most reasonable terms; likewise Silk Stockings washed in the most approved stile; also, Grave Cloaths made on the shortest notice.

"*N.B.*—Mantua-Making carried on in all its branches as formerly. Orders given in at P. Williamson's General Penny-Post Office, Luckenbooths, will be punctually attended to."

From a process of divorce which he instituted in the year 1789 against his wife, and in which he was successful, it appears that but for the gross misbehaviour of the former, he might have attained pretty easy circumstances.

The Procurator for the defender, in the case just alluded to, represents his





Courtship.

Penny-post as being a very lucrative business, bringing him in ready money every hour of the day, and employing four men to distribute the letters at four shillings and sixpence weekly each.

In his replies, Williamson alleges that his income was but trifling; that his Directory paid him very poorly; and that his wife robbed him of three-fourths of the profit of the post. In corroboration of this state of his finances, he pursued the divorce, as a litigant, on the poors' roll.

It may be added that the opposing party hinted at Peter's having acquired tipping habits; but it is impossible to attach any credit to a statement evidently made for the purpose of creating a prejudice in the minds of the judges against him.*

The following notice of his death occurs in a newspaper of the period, 19th January 1799:—

“At Edinburgh, Mr Peter Williamson, well known for his various adventures through life. He was kidnapped when a boy at Aberdeen; and sent to America, for which he afterwards recovered damages. He passed a considerable time among the Cherokees, and on his return to Edinburgh amused the public with a description of their manners and customs, and his adventures among them, assuming the dress of one of their chiefs, imitating the war-whoop, &c. He had the merit of first instituting a Penny-post in Edinburgh, for which, when it was assumed by Government, he received a pension. He also was the first who published a Directory, so essentially useful in a large city.”

From the intimation that he received a pension from Government, we should hope the latter days of this very enterprising and singular person were not embittered by penury.

No. LX.

COURTSHIP.

THIS Print is probably a fancy piece, yet there are some circumstances connected with it which might induce a different belief. Kay at the time was courting his second wife, to whom he presented a copy of the caricature, which she rejected with displeasure, although, as has been naively remarked, “she afterwards accepted a *more valuable one*” in the person of the limner himself. The gentleman with the singularly open countenance does possess in a slight degree the *contour* of the artist; but the “charming creature,” with whom he seems so much captivated, cannot be considered as approaching even to a caricature of the late Mrs Kay. A friend informs us that the female figure very strongly resembles an old woman who lived at the head of the Canongate.

* Williamson was very polite. A correspondent mentions, “that when a letter was taken to his house to be delivered by his Penny-post runners, he always made a most obsequious bow, adding, ‘Many thanks to you, Sir.’”

No. LXI.

MR WILLIAM MARTIN,

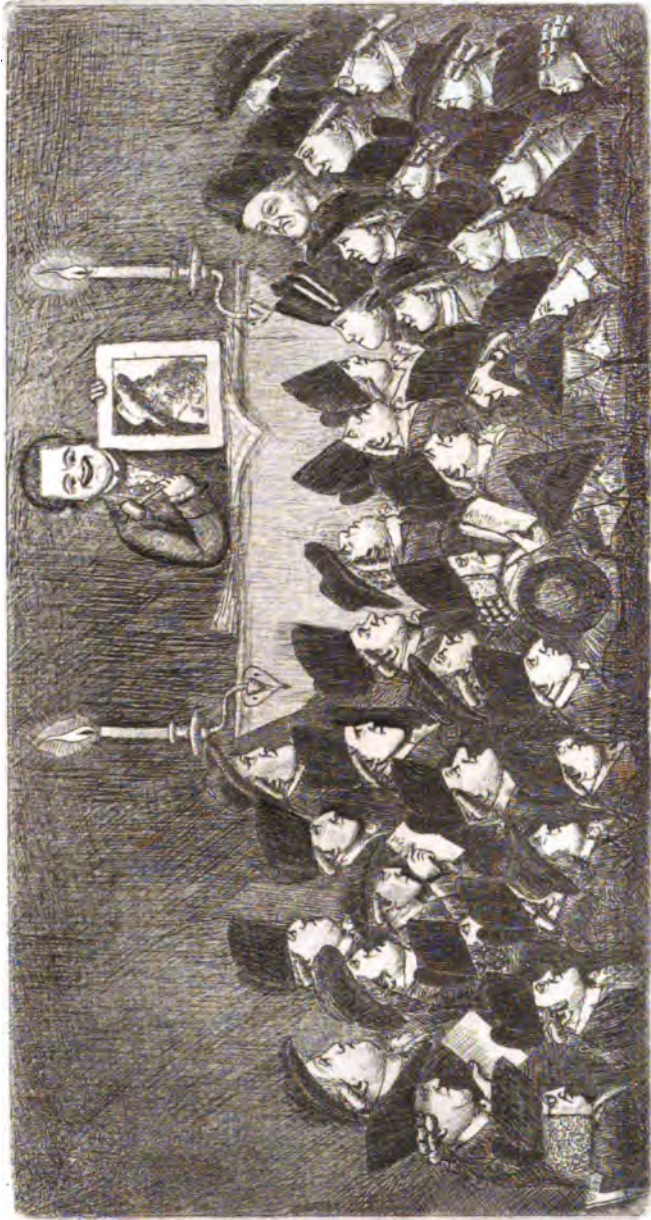
BOOKSELLER AND AUCTIONEER IN EDINBURGH.

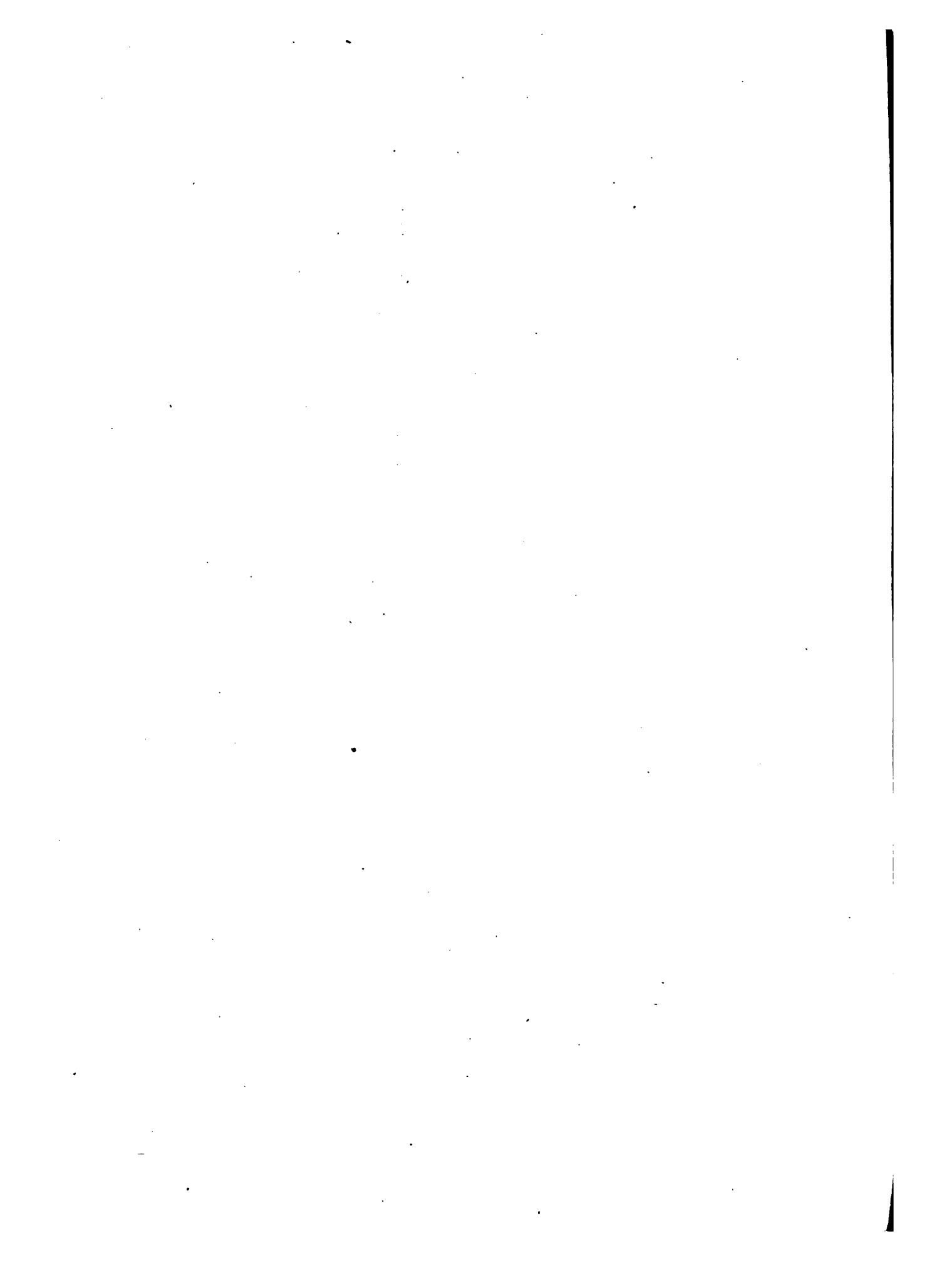
MR MARTIN, who was well known and extensively patronised in his profession, is here represented in the attitude of disposing of a picture, surrounded by an audience of literary gentlemen, connoisseurs in the fine arts. The heads are all likenesses of characters elsewhere sketched by Kay, and will be easily distinguished by the reader as the succeeding numbers of the Portraits appear.

Martin, or "Bibles" as he was commonly called, is supposed to have been born at or near Airdrie, about the year 1744; * and like his contemporary, Lackington of London, was originally bred a shoemaker. For several years after he came to Edinburgh, Martin occupied a small shop in the High Street, near the head of the West Bow, where he combined the two very opposite professions of bookseller and cobbler. He also frequented the country towns around Edinburgh on fairs and other market-days, exposing his small stock of books for sale; and, by dint of great perseverance and industry, was soon able to withdraw his allegiance from Crispin altogether, and to devote the whole of his attention to the sale of books.

It is uncertain at what period Martin came to Edinburgh. His burgess-ticket is dated 1786—but he must have been well established in business many years previously. From a letter of condolence written by him to the widow of his brother, who died in America, he appears to have been in thriving circumstances so early as 1782. He says, "The awfully sudden and unfortunate death of my brother—the helpless situation in which you were left, and so many fatherless children—situate in a country surrounded with war and devastation, my thoughts thereupon may be more easily conceived than described. * * * My uneasiness has been much increased by the thoughts of the boy coming to me, that I might receive him safely, and that he might escape the dangers of so long a voyage. Indeed it has been the will of Providence to take all my children from me, and my intention is to adopt him (his nephew) as my own son. My situation in business I have no cause to complain of. I have a shop in the bookselling way in the Lawnmarket of Edinburgh, to which occupation I mean to put William, my namesake, and in which I hope he will do very well. I will give him the best education, and he shall be as well clothed as myself. * * * My wife has been very much indisposed for some time bypast, and is not yet much better. She is most anxious about William, and wishes much to see him, from which you may conclude his arrival would make us both very happy."

* He used to boast that he was in arms during the Rebellion 1745.





The letter from which the foregoing extract is taken, is dated June 2, 1782, and directed to "Mrs Martin, relict of Captain Martin, to the care of Mr William Pagan, merchant, New York." The nephew, for whom he expresses so much anxiety, arrived safe in Scotland, and continued with him for several years, but returning to America, died not long after. His wife also, whose bad health he mentions, did not long survive.

Amid these severe domestic afflictions, Martin's business continued to flourish. Finding his old place of business too small, he removed to more commodious apartments in Gourlay's Land, Old Bank Close, in one of the large rooms of which he held his auction-mart. Here he seems to have been eminently successful. In 1789, he purchased these premises from the trustee for the creditors of the well-known William Brodie, cabinet-maker; and in 1792 the fame of his prosperity was so great as to attract the notice of a perpetrator of verses, of the name of Galloway, by whom he is associated with "King Lackington" of London, in the following *immortal* epistle: *

"TO MESSRS LACKINGTON AND MARTIN, BOOKSELLERS."

"Honour and fame from no condition rise,
Act well thy part, there all thy honour lies."—POPE.

"While booksellers jog in *Newmarket haste*,
Racing with Crispins for the bankrupt list;
Hail! then, King LACKINGTON, and brother MARTIN,
Fate's doom'd thee to survive the wreck for certain.
When you relinquish'd being *shoe-retailers*,
You shunn'd the dangerous rocks of leather-dealers;
Now, now, your BURNS, your MORRISSES, and PINDARS,
The product of their brain to you surrenders.
For which, *one word*, you've often sworn and said it,
You utterly abhor what *fools give—credits?*
Thus, you're the blades who can extract the honey,
For all your creed's in *two words*, '*ready money*.'
Now *eunuch-built* † booksellers all conivell,
And with thee tumbled headlong to the devil.
Sell, brother Crispins, sell, (and spurn their clamour),
Quick as your *welt-eye*, or the auction hammer;

* The *subject* of this exquisite *effort of genius* will be sufficient apology for its insertion. The author, GEORGE GALLOWAY, was born in Scotland on the 11th of October 1757. He was bred a mechanic—then turned musician—next went to sea, and was taken prisoner by the Spaniards. After a lapse of many years he returned to London, and there set about courting the Muses, having been rendered unfit for mechanical labour, owing to weakness of vision caused by long confinement abroad. While living in the capital he produced material for the volume from which the epistle is selected. In justice to George, we must say that his address to "Lackington and brother Martin" is the worst in the collection. He was the author of two plays, "*The Admirable Crichton; a tragedy in five acts*. Edin. 1802, 12mo.;" and "*The Battle of Luncarty, or the Vallant Hays triumphant over the Danish Invaders; a drama in five acts*. Edin. 1804, 12mo."—the perusal of which will afford a treat to those who have any perception of the ludicrous. The last production from his pen that we have seen is an "*Elegy on the Death of Henry Duke of Buccleuch*. Edin. 1812, 8vo.;" which is stated "to be printed for and sold by the Author."

† A vulgar allusion to Bailie Creech.

While others write, till eyes drop from their sockets,
 Racking their brain for gold to line your pockets.
 Since Heav'n has cut and form'd thee out for gain,
 And fate has fixed thee in the *richest vein* ;
 Led by Dame Fortune, that blind fickle b——h,
 Who's *smit* you with the whillie silver itch,
 Selling what hungry authors coin in heaps,
 Supporting printers' presses, and their types.
 Now since you've rais'd yourselves by your own *merit*,
Deil take them who envy what you inherit."

About 1793, Mr Martin sold his premises in Gourlay's Land to the Bank of Scotland, when he removed to 94, South Bridge, where he continued for a number of years. Not long after this he bought the Golf-House, at the east end of Bruntsfield Links, as a private residence, where he resided for several years. In 1806 Martin moved to No. 2, Lothian Street, but in a year or two after retired altogether from business, and died in the month of February 1820, nearly eighty years of age.

He was twice married, and by his first wife had several children ; but as he mentions himself, in the letter already alluded to, they died in infancy. His second wife (to whom he was married in December 1788) was a Miss Katherine Robertson, daughter of Mr Robertson, schoolmaster in Ayr. She had a brother many years surgeon in the 42d Highlanders. Mrs Martin survived her husband about seven years ; and at her death, his nephews in America received a sum equal to the half of his estate, and her brother received the remainder.

While in his auction-room, Martin was full of anecdote and humour, but somewhat fond of laughing at his own jokes. " He is apt," says Mr Kay, " to grin and laugh at his own jests, and the higher that prices are bid for his prints, the more he is observed to laugh and the wider to grin." Martin (nothing to his discredit, considering his humble origin,) was somewhat illiterate—at least he was no classical scholar—and perhaps in the course of his business he frequently suffered by his ignorance of the dead languages.* If the book he was about to sell happened to be Greek, his usual introduction was—" Here comes *craw-taes*, or whatever else you like to call it ;" and on other occasions, if the volume happened to be in a more modern language, but the title of which he was as little able to read, he would say to the students, after a blundering attempt, " Gentlemen, I am rather rusty in my French, but were it *Hebrew*, *ye ken* I would be quite at hame !" †

* Owing to ignorance, he sold many valuable Greek and Latin books for mere trifles. Sometimes when at a loss to read the title of a Latin or French book, he would, if he could find a young student near him, thrust the book before him, saying, " Read that, my man ; it's *sae lang* since I was at the College I hae forgotten a' my Latin."

† Having one night made even a more blundering attempt than usual to unriddle the title of a French book, a young dandy, wishing to have another laugh at Martin's expense, desired him to read the title of the book again, as he did not know what it was about. " Why," said Martin, " it's something about *manners*, and that's what neither you nor me has owre muckle o'."

Martin, however, was certainly more "at hame" in some instances than he was either in French, Latin, Greek, or Hebrew. On one occasion, at the time *Manfredo* was performing in Edinburgh, Martin, in the course of his night's labour, came across the "Life of Robinson Crusoe." Holding up the volume, and pointing to the picture of Robinson's man, *Friday*, he exclaims, "Weel, gentlemen, what will ye gie me for my *Man-Fredo*?—worth a dizen o' the Italian land-louper." *Manfredo*, who happened to be present, became exceedingly wroth at this allusion to him. "Vat do you say about *Manfredo*? Call me de land-loupeur!" Nothing disconcerted by this unexpected attack, Martin, again holding up the picture, replied—"I'll refer to the company if my *Man-Fredo* is no worth a dizen o' him!" The Italian fumed and fretted, but, amidst the general laughter, was obliged to retire.

In these days "rockings" in the country, and parties in the town, were very frequent. On such occasions the auctioneer was wont to be extremely merry, and seldom failed to recite in his best style "The Edinburgh Buck," by Robert Fergusson. He used also to sing tolerably well the ballad of "Duncan Gray." This seldom failed to be forthcoming—more particularly when a tea-party surrounded his own fireside. In this there was perhaps a little touch of domestic pride—at least the second Mrs Martin always thought so. During courtship, some trifling misunderstanding had taken place—

"Maggie coost her head fu' heigh,
Look'd asklent and unco skelgh,
Gart poor Duncan stand abeigh."

But Martin, like the fained Duncan, cooled, and discontinued his visits for some time, till Katherine "grew sick as he grew heal," and at last condescended to let the bookseller know her surprise why he had discontinued his visits. Martin, who had been, like his favourite, "a lad o' grace"—

"Could na' think to be her death;
Swelling pity smoor'd his wrath."

So he accordingly resumed his visits, and Kattie became his wife, being "crouse an' canty baith;" but she never could endure the song of "Duncan Gray."

Of Mr Martin's social habits, perhaps the best proof is the fact of his having been a member of the "Cape Club."* His diploma of knighthood is as follows:—

* The Cape Club comprised, amongst its numerous members, many men of talents, and of private worth. Fergusson (who alludes to the Club in his poem of "Auld Reekie,") was a member; as were Mr Thomas Sommers, his friend and biographer; Wood, the Scottish Roscius as he was called; and Runciman, the painter. The Club derived its name from the following circumstance:—"A person who lived in the suburbs of Calton was in the custom of spending an hour or two every evening with one or two city friends; and being sometimes detained till after the regular period when the Netherbow-Port was shut, it occasionally happened that he had either to remain in the city all night, or was under the necessity of bribing the porter who attended the gate. This difficult *pass*, partly on account of the rectangular corner which he turned, immediately on getting out of the Port, as he went homewards down

“ Be it known to all mortals, whether clerical or laical, that we, Sir James Gray, Knight of Kew, the supereminent sovereign of the most capital knight-hood of the Cape, having nothing more sincerely at heart than the glory and honour of this most noble order, and the happiness and prosperity of the Knights-companions : And being desirous of extending the benign and social influence of the Order to every region under the grand Cape of Heaven ; being likewise well informed and fully satisfied with the abilities and qualifications of William Martin, Esq., with the advice and concurrence of our Council—We do create, admit, and receive him a knight-companion of the most social Order, by the name, style, and title of *Sir William Martin*, Knight of Roger, and of E. F. D.—Hereby giving and granting unto him, all the powers, privileges, and pre-eminences that do, or may belong to this most social Order. And we give command to our Recorder to register this our patent in the records of the Order, in testimony of the premises. We have subscribed this with our own proper *fst*, and have caused appended the great Seal of the Order.* At Cape-Hall, this 20th day of the month called October, in the year of grace 1792. (Signed)—BED, Deputy-Sovereign.—Entered into the records of the Order, by Sir CELLAR, Recorder.—L. BOX, Secretary.”

So much for the good-fellowship of the “ grinning auctioneer.” Besides being a burgess, he was a member of the Society of Booksellers, and of the Merchant Company of Edinburgh. He was also a member of the Kirk Session of the Parish of St Cuthbert’s.

The late Mr Archibald Constable prevailed on Martin to sit for an hour to Mr Geddes, portrait-painter ; but the sketch was never finished, as he could not be induced to sit again. Although rough, it is a capital likeness, and was bought at Mr Constable’s sale by a friend of “ the Knight of Roger.”

Leith Wynd, and partly, perhaps, (if the reader will pardon a very humble *pun*,) because a *nautical* idea was most natural and appropriate on the occasion of being *half-seas over*, the Calton burgher facetiously called doubling the Cape ; and it was customary with his friends, every evening when they assembled, to inquire “ how he turned the Cape last night.”

The Club, on the 22d September 1770, (the birth-day of the author of “ The Seasons ”) held a musical festival in honour of the poet, and resolved to have similar meetings every tenth year. Accordingly, in the year 1780, 1790, and 1800, under the superintendence of Mr Wood, who composed and recited verses for the occasion, the entertainments were repeated with increased effect.

In 1780, when letters of marque were issued against the Dutch, the Knights of the Cape, at a very thin meeting of their Order on the 26th December, subscribed two hundred and fifty guineas towards fitting out a privateer.

* The “ Great Seal of the Order,” inclosed in a tin-box, has the letters “ E. F. D.,” surmounted by a coronet, enclosed with laurel, and the whole encircled with the words—“ *Sigillum communé Equitum de Cape—Concordiæ fratrum decus.*”





Thomas White, Midshipman at the Bar
of the high Court of Jusiary for
the Murder of William Jones - Seaman
on the Shore of Leith, on the 15th of June, 1814. —

J. MAY, 1814

No. LXII.

MR THOMAS WHITE

Is here represented between two veterans of the Old City Guard, whose faces will be familiar to many of the citizens of Edinburgh. The particulars of the fatal affair which brought him to the bar, were fully disclosed at his trial on the 12th of July 1814.

It appears that a Mr Lovit, a midshipman of the Unicorn frigate, then lying at Leith, had been sent with a boat and a party of six men to the dockyard, to ship some rigging. This occurred on the forenoon of the 15th of June, and about three o'clock of the same day, Mr Thomas White, a junior midshipman, was ordered with a boat and ten or twelve men to assist the others, and to bring both parties back to the ship in the evening. Accordingly, White proceeded with three of the crew to the assistance of the party at the dockyard, leaving the boat and the remainder of the men in charge of another midshipman of the name of Carroll.

William Jones, the person killed, was in the first party, and it appears he had been drinking, and became so unruly and disobedient to Mr Lovit, that he ran off, and had ultimately to be secured in the guard-house, until such time as the party should be ready to return to the Unicorn. In the mean time White, in company with one or two more midshipmen, had been drinking in the Britannia Tavern until about seven o'clock in the evening, when he went to the pier, and inquired at the party in the boat whether Jones and others had arrived. Having been answered in the negative, he returned again to the Britannia, and told midshipman Wright, that two men of Lovit's party, and one of his own, were missing, at the same time desiring him to go and look after them.

White in a short time returned to the pier, calling out for Jones, who answered, "Here, sir." Jones was then on the pier, and had lain down upon his side in the manner the others had done to get into the boat, the water being low at the time, and the boat at some distance. White desired him to go on board more than once; but Jones, who was pretty tipsy, grumbled, and replied "He would not until he handed the basket to the girl"—a mulatto who had come with some drink to the party in the boat. Without farther provocation White drew his cutlass, struck Jones two or three blows on the head and breast, and also gave him a thrust in the abdomen, upon receiving which he sprung up and attempted to get over, but in doing so either fell or was shoved by White among the stones at the bottom of the pier. Jones was immediately lifted into the boat, but died in a very short time after in consequence of the thrust.

White, who was also evidently intoxicated, afterwards behaved in a most outrageous manner—threatening vengeance against the crowd, who were beginning

to press around him ; and on some gentlemen calling out to secure him, he ran along the pier a few yards, brandishing his cutlass and uttering defiance. He then went on board the store-ship lying at the pier, and stationing himself upon the bowsprit, threatened to stab any one who should attempt to lay hands on him ; and on some one calling out " Murderer !" from the pier, he again ran on shore, chasing the crowd with his cutlass. The boatswain of the Unicorn at last came up to him, and desired him to sheath his sword, but he refused. The boatswain then asked it from him, when a struggle ensued, on which one Fowler Ferguson, a carter and publican in Leith, came up and took the cutlass out of White's hand. The prisoner was then conveyed to the Council Chamber.

From exculpatory proof led, it was shown that White bore an excellent character, both for sobriety and humanity ; that he could have entertained no malice towards Jones, as he had only the day before sheltered him from punishment for being drunk ; and likewise that, as desertions were at the time prevalent, he had acted under the impression that Jones wished to escape. Whatever else might have had influence, it was evident that drink had been the cause of the unhappy act—the ship arrived at Leith on the 14th, and the hands had received their pay only ten days previous at Stromness, so that a little irregularity might have been expected.

Although the prisoner was indicted for murder, yet the jury, after a lengthened examination, found him guilty of *culpable homicide* ; and the Lords of Justiciary, in consideration of the previous good character of the unfortunate young gentleman, sentenced him to fourteen years' transportation.

No. LXIII.

MR HENDERSON AND MR CHARTERIS,

OF THE THEATRE-ROYAL, EDINBURGH,

IN THE CHARACTERS OF SIR JOHN FALSTAFF AND BARDOLPH.

MR HENDERSON, as *Sir John Falstaff*, a character in which he has probably never been surpassed, will be easily distinguished to the left ; and it must be admitted, that in this sketch of the scene betwixt the valiant *Sir John* and his friend *Bardolph*, the pencil of the artist has felicitously conveyed a portion of the genuine animation of the original.

It was in February 1746 that Mr John Henderson first saw the light in Goldsmith Street, Cheapside ; his family was originally Scotch, and he is said to have been a descendant in a direct line from the famous Dr Alexander Henderson. His father died two years after the birth of our hero, leaving him and two brothers to the protection of their mother, who retired with them shortly



Why, Sir John, my face does you no harm. No, I'll be sworn; I make as good use of it many
man does of a death's head, or a *memento mori*. I never see thy nose, but I think upon ^{it} five

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afterwards to Newport-Pagnell, where she contrived to live upon the interest of a small sum of money. At an early age, by means of his mother, he imbibed a taste for poetry; and Shakspeare being almost his constant study, a wish to embody his characters on the stage was soon created. The play he admired most was the *Winter's Tale*. When arrived at or near the age of eleven he was sent to a school at Hemel-Hampstead, and employed the short time he was there most advantageously. From thence he returned to London, to be placed under the charge of Mr Fournier, an eminent artist, as he had given early indications of a taste for drawing. To the house of Mr Cripps, a silversmith of very considerable business in St James's Street, to whom he was nearly related, he was soon afterwards transferred, for the purpose of making drawings and designs for that business; but the sudden death of Mr Cripps put an end to his prospects in this line. His ardent passion for acting now gained the ascendancy, and Henderson made his first public appearance in a barn at a village in Islington, where he recited Garrick's *Ode to Shakspeare*, at that time very popular. This effort procured him a number of admirers, and many invitations to parties, at all of which he displayed his powers. Exertions were made to obtain the notice of the managers; and after several years' attendance at the levee of the presiding genius of Drury Lane, during which he was refused an engagement at Covent Garden by Mr Colman, Mr Garrick condescended to grant him a day of audience, and heard him rehearse several scenes in a variety of characters. After some hesitation the manager gave it as his opinion that "he had in his mouth too much worsted, which he must absolutely get rid of before he was fit for Drury Lane stage." The same fault has been found with the able representative of fiends and ruffians, O. Smith, and a rhyming critique on the merits of his acting concludes thus:—

" But his delivery is very shocking—
He speaks as if 'twere through a worsted stocking."

Garrick, however, having no wish to discourage the "young stager," furnished him with a letter to Mr Palmer, manager of the Bath Theatre, who gave him an engagement for a term of three years, at the very liberal salary of "one pound one per week."

On the 6th of October then, in the year 1772, did "the Bath Roscius," under the assumed name of Courtenay, make a most successful *debut* in the character of *Hamlet*, the known recommendation of Garrick operating upon the attendance at the theatre that evening, and controlling in no small degree the judgment of the audience after they went. In an address written for the occasion, Henderson shortly afterwards reclaimed his own cognomen. So attractive did he prove, that the manager found it for his interest to "send him on" that season in upwards of five-and-twenty different parts. He was noticed by people of the first rank and talent, among others Paul Whitehead, Gainsborough the painter, Dr Schomberg, and Mr John Beard.

After the first Bath campaign he repaired to London, fondly imagining that

the strength of his fame would cause the doors of Covent Garden and Drury Lane to be thrown open to him, and that he had nothing to do but choose between the two. But the managers even then did not propose; and though he invited Mr Leake of Covent Garden to an entertainment, and exerted all his skill to convince him of his merit, by various recitations, he was unsuccessful in procuring an engagement, and returned to "his old perch" chagrined and mortified at this reception.

In the notice of his life in "Oxberry's Dramatic Biography," it is affirmed that while in London he amused his friends with ludicrous imitations of favourite actors, particularly Garrick, who, being informed of it, invited him to breakfast, and requested a specimen of his talents in mimicry. At the imitations of Barry, Woodward, and Love, Garrick was in raptures:—"But, sir," said he, "you'll kill poor Barry, slay Woodward, and break poor Love's heart. Your ear must be wonderously correct, and your voice most singularly flexible. I am told you *have* me. Do, I entreat, let me hear what I am; for if you are equally exact with me as with Barry and Woodward, I shall know precisely what my peculiar tones are." Henderson, after some hesitation, complied with his request, and though two disinterested auditors acknowledged the faithfulness of the portraiture, Garrick, displeased, said, "Egad! if that is my voice, I never have known it myself; for, upon my soul, it is entirely dissimilar to every thing I conceived mine to be, and totally unlike any thing that has ever struck upon my ear till this blessed hour."

At Bath, Henderson rose in fame by his performing *Falstaff* and several other characters of Shakspeare, and at the close of the second season again entered London in search of an engagement, and again met with a repulse from Garrick, and from Foote, then managing at the Haymarket; but so eager was he to make an appearance on the London boards, that when in Bath, towards the end of 1774, he wrote to Mr Garrick, and proposed, at his own risk and expense, to act on Drury Lane stage the characters of *Hamlet* and *Shylock*. Mr Taylor of Bath also solicited Mr Garrick to accede to this. Mr Garrick answered Mr Taylor very explicitly:—He thought the proposal would be extremely injurious to Mr Henderson himself; he could not suppose that his playing two characters would give the public a proper idea of his merit. As his well-wisher, he would strenuously protest against the other scheme; but if Henderson chose to be with him, why not fix upon *Hamlet*, *Shylock*, *Benedict*, or any other part he pleased to appear in next winter. To this letter, Henderson, in answer, made a new proposal—to act the ensuing winter at Drury Lane Theatre, the parts of *Hamlet*, *Shylock*, *Richard*, and *Lear*, with other characters *under restriction*. Garrick was enraged that any one should presume to dictate terms to him, and "attempt to take the management out of his hands," as he expressed it, and again declined his services.

In the summer of 1776, Henderson performed at Birmingham, under the banners of Mr Yates, where Mrs Siddons was the leading actress, having the preceding season been unsuccessful in London.

At last chance brought about that which his own fame and the strong recommendations of men of genius and nobles could not effect. Mr Colman having purchased the patent for acting plays at the Haymarket from Mr Foote, and fearing that the infirmities of that gentleman might incapacitate him from furnishing his quota of public entertainment in writing and acting, engaged Henderson to supply his place occasionally, at a salary of one hundred pounds for the season, which was eagerly accepted. He opened in *Shylock*, and, after appearing in one or two other parts, his success was complete. All the world ran to the Haymarket to witness his performances, and a considerable sum was realized by the manager, who, though no stipulation had been made to that effect, gave him a free benefit. Messrs Harris and Leake, of Covent Garden theatre, insinuated that Henderson was not fit for the topping parts, but was only equal to a second or third-rate character, and still withheld from engaging him; but Sheridan, who had seen him act *Hamlet* twice, was not to be swayed by their dictum, and, on his own responsibility, enrolled him as a member of the corps of Drury Lane for the ensuing winter season. His salary was fixed at L.10 per week, and Mr Sheridan at the same time undertook to pay the forfeiture of articles to Palmer, the Bath manager, amounting to L.300, which was done by Sheridan giving Palmer the liberty of performing *The School for Scandal*. Nothing was now wanting but the countenance of Mr Garrick; but he, to use his own words, "could not think of having any connexion with a man who had ridiculed him by mimicry, and had exposed and laughed at his letters." The latter charge Henderson always denied.

On the conclusion of the season, Henderson took a trip to Ireland, by which movement his purse and reputation were considerably increased. On his return to England, he espoused a lady bearing the Cockney plebeian name of Figgins, at her native place, Chippenham, Somersetshire, on the 13th January 1779. He again visited Ireland during the summer of that year, and in consequence of some disagreement between him and Mr Sheridan, transferred his services to Covent Garden during the winter. It was during this engagement that he performed *Macbeth* for the first time. The summer of 1780 he passed at Liverpool, and returned to Covent Garden in the winter, when he appeared in the characters of *Wolsey*, *Sir John Brute*, and *Iago*; there is an engraving of him in the last character by Bartolozzi, which is rather scarce. In the summer of 1781, he was without an engagement; 1782, he played at Liverpool; and in November 1783, appeared as *Tamerlane* to Mr Kemble's *Bajazet*.

On Saturday, 31st July 1784, he made his first appearance on the Scottish stage at Edinburgh, in the character of *Hamlet*. The following is a notice of his performance of that character:—"On Saturday evening Mr Henderson made his first appearance in this theatre, in the character of *Hamlet*, to a very genteel audience. The house was full, but not crowded. This gentleman is undoubtedly the most correct actor at present on the stage. His deportment is easy and unaffected; his voice, when not carried too high, pleasing and comprehensive; and his action is the result of good sense, taste, and a perfect knowledge of his author.

To speak comparatively, Digges' figure was better, and his voice perhaps more mellow and powerful, but Digges played with little judgment, was very deficient in the nicer touches of the art, and often had no conception of what he spoke. In judgment and taste Mr Henderson is eminent. He understands perfectly the character he plays, and never fails to give the just meaning of his author, and this, in so difficult and various a character as *Hamlet*, requires the powers of a master. He avoids that unnatural violence and rant which is often introduced into the part, and which seldom fails to catch the ears of the groundlings, but is certainly more characteristic of the blustering player than the *Prince of Denmark*. From what we have seen we are of opinion that the admirers of Shakspeare, who wish to understand perfectly their favourite author, should attend Mr Henderson; in his mouth no passage seems perplexed, and he is a comment at once pleasing and instructive."

On the 2d August he acted *Shylock* in the *Merchant of Venice*, which the newspaper advertisement, for the instruction of the ignorant, announces to be "written by Shakspeare."

On the 3d, *Sir John Falstaff* in the *Merry Wives of Windsor*. "One would have thought," continues the critique alluded to, "from the crowded state of the house, that the Siddons was still here. Greater praise, perhaps, was not due to Mrs Siddons for any of her parts than to Mr Henderson, for the inimitable humour and original manner in which he played *Falstaff*. In this character he stands unrivalled on the British stage. He met with repeated bursts of applause from every part of the house. One honest gentleman was so tickled with the humour, that he almost fell into convulsions with laughing. Mr Henderson was perhaps painted too youthful for the character."

5th, *Don John* in the *Chances*, as altered from Beaumont and Fletcher by Garrick. In this comedy "he gave a proof that his powers were as well adapted to the lively-spirited rake, as to the serious and philosophic *Hamlet*."

7th, Acted *Macbeth*. "In *Macbeth* he was equally animated and correct as in any of the other parts he has displayed."*

8th, *Sir John Falstaff*, in the First Part of *King Henry IV.*, for his benefit. "In this character he exceeded any thing we have seen of his performance. The continued peals of laughter and applause, from a most brilliant and crowded audience, testified the strongest approbation, and the part perhaps was never played with such inimitable genuine humour. The Knight's description of his troop, with Mr Henderson's looks, tones, and gestures, was beyond description admirable.

10th, *Richard III.*

14th, *King Lear.*

16th, *Sir Giles Overreach.*

* "It is surprising that there should not be a proper Scots dress on the stage in the metropolis of Scotland, and that a Spanish dress, or indeed any other, should serve as a Highland dress by the addition of a piece of tartan drawn awkwardly across the shoulder, as if it was the insignia of an order of knighthood. The characters in *Macbeth*, indeed, exhibited the dresses of all nations, and one might have thought that a dealer in Monmouth Street had been airing his stock in trade to prevent it being eaten by moths."—*Courant*.

The witches are said to have made a Dutch chorus of the music.

Prior to his departure, on the 18th of August, the ensuing advertisement appeared in the public prints:—"Mr Henderson, before leaving this city, begs leave most respectfully to express his grateful sense of the indulgent and liberal patronage he has received from the public of Edinburgh, and to assure them that he shall ever retain a lively remembrance of the polite and flattering attention with which they have been pleased to honour him."

During the summer of 1785 he performed a few nights at Dublin, and was invited to the Castle, where he read the story of "Le Fevre," and some other select passages from his favourite Sterne, to the Duke and Dutchess of Rutland and their Court.

Previous to his voyage to Dublin, some little difference betwixt him and Mr Harris had been accommodated, and he again entered into an engagement for four years, which he did not live to fulfil. His last performance was *Horatius* in the *Roman Father*, on the 3d November 1785. He was soon after seized with a disorder—ossification of the heart—which terminated his life on the 25th of that month, in the fortieth year of his age.

On the 3d December following, the remains of John Henderson were interred in Westminster Abbey, near Dr Johnson and Garrick, the Chapter and Choir attending to pay respect to his memory. His pall was supported by the Hon. Mr Byng, Mr Malone, Mr Whitefoord, Mr Stevens, and Mr Hook.

MR CHARTERIS was admirably fitted for the personification of *Bar-dolph*, in which character he is represented in the Print. This arose not only from the possession of genuine talents as a comic actor—but from another advantage more peculiar to himself, in bestowing which nature had been extremely prodigal—we mean his remarkably long nose. The pencil of Kay may be suspected of at least having done nothing to lessen the appearance of this protuberance; but certain it is, Mr Charteris' nose was so wonderful as to be an object of general attention when he appeared on the streets. One day a party of country people were strolling along the High Street, viewing whatever might appear to them curious, when the actor, happening to be proceeding in the opposite direction, met them somewhere about the Cross. The clowns, attracted by his huge proboscis, stood staring at it, as if riveted with astonishment.—"Gentlemen," said Charteris good-humouredly, suiting the action to the word, "if you can't get past I'll hold it to a side."

Mr Charteris was a popular actor, and his comic powers have formed the subject of four lines of doggerel in "The Edinburgh Rosciad for 1775." They run thus:—

"Charteris, for comic merit, need not yield
To any hero in theatric field:
In the poor starved *Apothecary*, you
Deserve great praise for looks and action true."

He died about the year 1798—but of this event, or any thing relating to his private history, we have been unable to procure authentic information. The

death of his wife, which occurred in September 1807, is thus recorded in one of the Edinburgh periodicals of the day:—"Died, on Monday last, with the well-merited reputation of an honest, inoffensive woman, Mrs Charteris, who has been in this theatre for more than thirty years. She succeeded the much-admired Mrs Webb, and, for many years after that actress left the city, was an excellent substitute in *Lady Dove, Juliet's Nurse, Deborah Woodcock, Dorcus, Mrs Bundle, &c. &c.*"

To her succeeded Mrs Nicol, whose merits are too well known to require any comment from us. She retired from the stage in 1834, after a career of twenty-seven years, and died the year following. Her daughter at present fills her range of characters in the Edinburgh theatre, and bids fair to become as excellent and as popular an actress as her mother.

No. LXIV.

THE REV. JOSEPH ROBERTSON MACGREGOR,

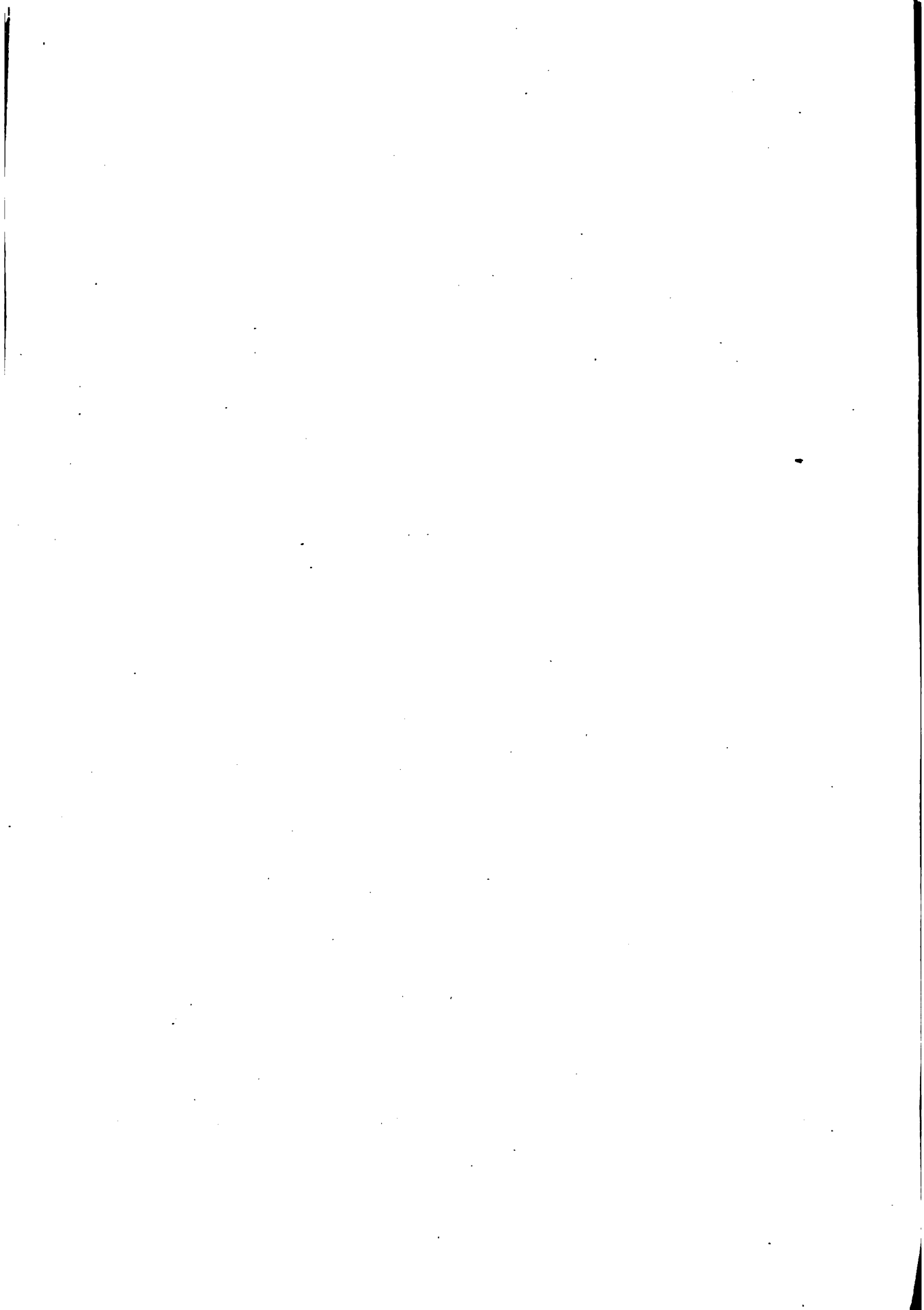
FIRST MINISTER OF THE EDINBURGH GAELIC CHAPEL.

THE old Gaelic Chapel, at the Castlehill, was erected in 1769, principally by the exertions of Mr William Dickson, then a dyer in Edinburgh, who set on foot subscriptions, and purchased ground for the purpose, which was afterwards conveyed to the Society for propagating Christian Knowledge. In the course of seven years afterwards, owing to the rapid influx of people from the Highlands, it was found necessary to enlarge the building, which was then done so as to accommodate eleven hundred sitters; and although in connexion with the Established Church, the subscribers and seat-holders chose their own minister, and provided him with a salary of L.100 a-year. The same method of choosing a pastor still exists. The management of the chapel is placed in the hands of elders, who pay over the seat-rents to the Society for propagating Christian Knowledge, and the Society takes the responsibility of making good the minister's stipend, which is now considerably increased.

MR JOSEPH ROBERTSON MACGREGOR, the first minister of the chapel, was a native of Perthshire. For some time after he came to Edinburgh, he was employed as a clerk in an upholstery warehouse; but in a few years was enabled, by great industry, to push himself forward. He became a licentiate of the Church of England, but subsequently joined the Established Church of Scotland.

Previous to the erection of the Gaelic Chapel, he was employed as a Lecturer and Catechist to the Highland families, who obtained the use of the Relief Chapel, in South College Street, to assemble in after sermon for the purpose of instruction. Mr Macgregor was originally known by the name of Robertson,





having assumed the surname of his mother, in consequence of the Proscriptive Act against the Macgregors; but, on the repeal of that statute in 1784,* he resumed the appellation of his forefathers.

Under the active pastoral management of Macgregor, the Gaelic portion of the inhabitants of Edinburgh became as remarkable for morality and steadiness as they had been previously distinguished for conduct the reverse. "The present pastor," says a publication of 1787, "is at uncommon pains with his hearers. He has stated diets of catechising immediately after the dismissal of the congregation, every Sabbath afternoon, from May till October, in the chapel. On this occasion, the younger part of the hearers are instructed in the principles of the Christian religion in the English language, and these subjects are enlarged on in the Gaelic, for the benefit of adults."

About the same period, the congregation had increased so much that it was in contemplation to build a larger house, calculated to contain seventeen or eighteen hundred hearers. This rapid influx from the Highlands was, no doubt, owing principally to the system of expatriation adopted by some of the proprietors; and, in a secondary degree, to the extensive buildings and improvements then going on in Edinburgh, which presented a ready field of employment to a wandering population. This proposal, however, was not carried into effect till 1815, when the new chapel at the head of the Horse Wynd was erected, the front of which bears the following inscription:—

"GAELIC CHAPEL, 1769.

THE LORD WILL PROVIDE.

Removed from the Castle-hill to this place, 1815."

This record must not, of course, be understood in the literal sense of the terms employed. The *removal* of the chapel was not after the fashion in America, where houses, and sometimes streets, are not necessarily stationary.

The Rev. Mr Macgregor's residence was in Mound Place, third door up stairs, a little to the west of the present Auditor's Chambers, &c. He died on the 12th December 1801, leaving a son and daughter. The son entered the army, and attained the rank of Colonel;—he died only a few years ago. The daughter married a Captain Maclaren—was long a widow—and died lately.

Mr Macgregor appears, at an early period, to have done credit to the ministerial office, and was much respected. Being of a free, social humour, he was, perhaps, more frequently called upon than any other minister in the city to officiate at marriage and baptismal ceremonies; but unfortunately the sociality of his disposition paved the way to habits of dissipation, which, in his latter years, not unfrequently led to the solemnization of marriages, in many instances, without proper investigation.†

* So proud was Macgregor of this concession to his clansmen, that on the day the Proscriptive Act expired he dressed himself in the Highland costume peculiar to his clan, and walked conspicuously through a great portion of the city.

† In his bacchanalian irregularities, of which several gossiping anecdotes have been told, Macgregor

The successors of Mr Macgregor in the Gaelic Chapel have been numerous. They were the Rev. James M'Lauchlan, afterwards removed to Moy, Inverness-shire, of which parish he is still minister; the Rev. John Macdonald, now of Urquhart, Banffshire; the Rev. John Munro, now of Halkirk, Caithness; and the unfortunate (he was thought to be insane) Duncan M'Cuaig, who was tried and banished for theft in July 1831.* The present pastor is the Rev. John M'Allister.

No. LXV.

THE REV. JAMES LAWSON OF BELVIDERE,

"THE JOB OF PRESENT TIMES."

THIS Print, we are assured, is a striking likeness of MR LAWSON, who is represented in the attitude of receiving the General Assembly's covered, buttoned, and sealed Bible, which was handed to him by a member of the Assembly, when, in answer to a question put to him as to where his creed lay, he pointed to it as the only rule of his faith. The quotations inserted on the plate, at his own request, on each side of the figure, entitled, "The World and the Church," are in allusion to his protracted process before the Church Courts.

The father of Mr Lawson was proprietor of Belvidere, a small estate in the neighbourhood of Auchterarder. He had warmly opposed the settlement of Mr Campbell as minister of that parish; but, on finding himself in the minority, he signed the call along with the other heritors. This opposition, trivial as it may appear, is represented in Kay's MS. as the primary cause of the course of procedure afterwards adopted by the Presbytery of Auchterarder towards his son.

Shortly after the father's death, young Lawson began seriously to think of entering the ministry; and, after attending the usual number of seasons at College, he applied to the Presbytery of Auchterarder to be licensed, at least to undergo his trials for that purpose.

According to Kay, the Rev. Mr Campbell had not forgotten the circumstance of the Laird of Belvidere's opposition to his settlement, and resolved to manifest that vindictive feeling towards the son, which circumstances did not enable him to shew towards the father. Be this as it may, the fact is undoubted that

occasionally became the associate of two well-known sporting gentlemen—then in the hey-day of youth and frolic—whose portraits we will have occasion to notice in a subsequent part of this work. These manifestations of the *spirit* render the character of the Gaelic clergyman somewhat equivocal; yet it is but fair to state that his name ought not to be confounded, as has frequently been the case, with that of the Reverend *Joseph Robertson*, sometime minister of the chapel in Macdowall Street, Paul's Walk, who was banished for forging certificates of proclamation.

* This person is now a teacher in Van Diemen's Land. The latest accounts represent him as in a state of complete destitution.



The World

1.
The Law of
the Medes
and Persians
altereth
not.

2.
Nobles
shield
for the
Cath's
Sake.

3.
What I have
Written
I have
Written.

To the Law & to
the testimony:
if they speak
not according
to this word,
it is because
there is no light
in them.

The Church

1.
- We reject
the Law of
God, that ye
may keep
your own.

2.
The Throne
of Iniquity
frameth
mischief
by a law.

3.
Do to others
as ye would
have others,
do to you
and yours.

The G. Aps.
Seald, covered
& buttoned
Bible; tho
The only rule
of
Faith & manners.

The Persevering Petitioner for Justice & Patient witness against Iniquity; or, The Lot of the present Times.



the Presbytery of Auchterarder actually postponed consideration of Mr Lawson's claim to be admitted to the ministry, without assigning any ground for so doing, for the period of six years ! This occurred in 1771 ; and although, three years afterwards, the Assembly interfered, by an order to the Presbytery to take his case into consideration, it was not until 1777 that Mr Lawson became actively resolute in forwarding his claim to be licensed.

In the General Assembly of that year we find him in the character of " a petitioner for justice," when his " appeal against a sentence of the Presbytery of Auchterarder, refusing to take him on licentiate trials, with reasons of dissent, and a complaint by some members of Presbytery, were taken into consideration." In the petition it is stated, " that, as soon as the appellant had made his requisition to be taken on trials, the ministers withdrew from the Presbytery house without closing the sederunt, to the house in which they were to dine ; and after dinner, they sent their officer for the appellant, and without calling for a single elder up stairs, or assigning any reason at all for their refusal, they (6th May 1777) did, by a majority, refuse to grant the petitioner's request." In the " reasons of dissent" by certain members of the Presbytery, it is stated— " 1st, That Mr Lawson's moral character was irreproachable ;—that nothing is alleged against him except some improprieties of behaviour ;—that his *recluse and studious life may have kept him a stranger to the fashion of this world*, which passeth away ; but the want of these superficial accomplishments is amply compensated for by a considerable proficiency in human literature and in theology—by a simplicity, sincerity, and humility of deportment—and, above all, by a rational and unfeigned devotion ; and that the Presbytery, on the principles on which they rejected Mr Lawson, would have *rejected John the Baptist*, who was bred a hermit, unfashioned to this world.—2d, That three years have elapsed since the Assembly ordered the Presbytery to show all charity to Mr Lawson, and, though not to be rash in taking him on trials, yet to treat him with all tenderness and candour ; and that an interval of three years will vindicate the Presbytery from any charge of rashness ; but it was also their duty to treat him with tenderness and candour.—And 3d, That the Presbytery refused, *simpliciter*, to take him on trials, without assigning any reason for their refusal." Parties being fully heard, after long reasoning, the General Assembly reversed the sentence complained of, and ordered the Presbytery to take Mr Lawson on trials ; with all convenient speed, and according to the rules of the Church.

The Presbytery, in accordance with the mandate of a higher court, began the business of the " trials." The result may be anticipated, when we mention that, in the General Assembly of the following year, (1778,) Mr Lawson again appeared in the character of a petitioner, complaining of a sentence of the Presbytery of Auchterarder, " rejecting a discourse he had delivered before them as part of his trials, and remitting him to his studies." The Honourable Henry Erskine appeared as his counsel, and Messrs Scott, Dunbar, and Wright, for the Presbytery. After both parties were heard, the Assembly agreed to read Mr

Lawson's prayer and homily—a proceeding which was prevented by Mr Erskine withdrawing the appeal.*

Mr Lawson again appeared in the Assembly in 1779, as appellant from a sentence of the Presbytery of the 4th of May of that year, when the Assembly “remitted the cause to the Presbytery, and appointed them to take Mr Lawson on trials before the meeting of next Assembly; and in case any objections are offered to his discourses, or to his conduct, they shall give him an opportunity of being heard on these objections before passing any judgment upon them.”

This remit did not benefit Mr Lawson; and in the next Assembly he again appeared as a “persevering petitioner” against the Presbytery of Auchterarder. In this new petition he complains, that on 2d of February 1780, the Presbytery prescribed to him a homily on a passage in Matthew, which the petitioner delivered on the 4th of April, and upon which the Presbytery did not give judgment, but prescribed to him another portion of Scripture for a lecture. The lecture he also delivered on the 25th of April, when the Presbytery again, without giving judgment, prescribed another portion of Scripture for an exercise and addition; but being thus “exercised” out of all patience, the student once more claimed the protection of the Supreme Court. On hearing the petition, the Assembly appointed a committee to meet with the parties, with the view of an amicable adjustment, and afterwards “remitted to the Presbytery to proceed to the remainder of Mr Lawson's trials, to finish the same, and pronounce their final judgment thereon, between and the first Wednesday of May next.”

The Presbytery, thus pushed to extremities, had no resource but to pronounce a final opinion, which was done within the period assigned; and we need scarcely add, after what had passed, that it was condemnatory of the petitioner. On the meeting of the Assembly in 1781, the committee which had been appointed to consider Mr Lawson's discourses, gave in a report (to which the Assembly agreed) of the following tenor:—“Edinburgh, May 31, 1781. The committee report, that having heard three of Mr Lawson's discourses, and a letter of his to the Presbytery of Auchterarder, in answer to a question of the Presbytery put to him respecting his communicating, they found in the discourses such proofs of incapacity, and in the letter such a spirit, as in their unanimous opinion fully justified the sentence of the Presbytery refusing to grant him a license.” The Rev. Mr Cowan of Gladsmuir dissented from this judgment of the Assembly.

The final result certainly exonerates the Presbytery from all other blame, excepting that of having unnecessarily delayed a decision for so long a period.

* This proceeding, on the part of his counsel, certainly creates a strong presumption that, although the Presbytery might originally have erred in postponing consideration of the claim, the latter remit of Mr Lawson to his trials was a very proper one. If the prayer and homily were unexceptionable, why not have submitted them to the consideration of the Assembly? In that case, after considering these productions, had the members of that venerable court been satisfied of his fitness for the ministry, the sentence complained of would have been reversed.





Between the years 1781 and 1785, Mr Lawson published a full detail of the proceedings in his case, in a pamphlet occupying nearly 300 pages of letter-press; also, "Three Letters addressed to candid Christians of all denominations." He immediately thereafter went to London, where he was well received by several Dissenting clergymen, and from whom he obtained a license to preach, which he continued to do for a few years, in connexion with the Relief body. Mr Lawson died at Leith on the 27th of August 1788.

No. LXVI.

AN EXCHANGE OF HEADS.

HUGO ARNOT, ESQ.—MR WILLIAM MACPHERSON,
AND ROGER HOG, ESQ.

THE "Exchange of Heads" is supposed to have taken place betwixt two individuals, so very opposite in every describable feature, that the one has been denominated a *shadow*, while the other, *par excellence*, may as appropriately be termed *substance*. The space between *shadow* and *substance* is ingeniously devoted to the full development of a *back view* of a third party, who, differing entirely from either, displays a rotundity of person more than equal to the circumference of both.

Some account has already been given of MR ARNOT, whose head, forming the apex to the solid pyramid of Macpherson's trunk, appears first to the left in the trio of figures. Respecting his substantial friend, however, whose ponderous head, as if poised on a needle, seems like an infringement of the laws of gravity, some amusing gossip has been preserved.

MR WILLIAM MACPHERSON, whose father was sometime deacon of the masons in Edinburgh, was a Writer to the Signet, and, in many respects, a man of very eccentric habits. He lived in that famed quarter of the city, the West Bow, three stairs up, in a tenement which immediately joined the city wall, and looked towards the west, but which has been recently removed to make way for the improvements now in progress, and which have all but annihilated the Bow. Mr Macpherson continued a bachelor through life, and seemed from many circumstances to have conceived a determined antipathy to the "honourable state of matrimony." He had two maiden sisters who kept house with him; but whether they entertained similar prejudices, or remained single from necessity, we do not pretend to know. The bachelor respected his sisters

very much, although in his freaks he called the one *Sodom*, and the other *Gomorrah*.

Like most of his contemporary lords of the quill, Macpherson possessed many "social qualities;" but he quaffed so deeply and so long, that towards night he seldom found his way up the High Street in a state short of total inebriety. On arriving at the West Bow, and when he came to the bottom of the stair, he used to bellow to *Sodom* or *Gomorrah* to come down and help up their *drunken brother*, which they never failed to do; and, for additional security in such cases, it is said he generally ascended the stair *backwards*.

Notwithstanding his potations, Macpherson maintained for some time a degree of respectability, at least, consistent with the laxity of the times. When associating with the more respectable *bon vivants* of these his better days, his favourite saying, before tossing off his glass of claret, of which he was very fond, used to be, "Here goes another peck of potatoes."* Macpherson at length became, we regret to say, a habitual drunkard. A loss of respectability in his profession was the consequence; and from the practice which he followed of signing Signet letters for very small sums of money, and other low habits of business, inconsistent with the dignity of the Society, his professional brethren at last urged him to retire upon an annuity. This, however, his pride would never allow him to consent to; and he continued a member of the Society of Writers to the Signet till the day of his death.

No case, however trifling—no client, however poor or disreputable, was latterly beneath the legal aid of Macpherson; and no mode of payment, whether in goods or currency, was deemed unworthy of acceptance. As an instance of his practice, he was seen one day very tipsy, plodding his way up the West Bow from the Grassmarket, with an armful of "neeps," (turnips,) which he had obtained from some green-stall keeper, in remuneration for legal services performed. Not being able to maintain a proper equilibrium, his occasional "bickers" at last unsettled his burthen; one or two of the turnips, like Newton's apple, found the centre of gravity, and in attempting to recover these, nearly the whole of his armful trundled down the causeway. Macpherson, determined not to lose what might otherwise contribute much to a favourite dinner, coolly, and as steadily as possible, set about collecting the turnips, and actually succeeded, to the astonishment of every one, in accomplishing his object. On arriving with his load at the accustomed stair-foot, he shouted, as usual, for *Sodom* and *Gomorrah* to render assistance; and by their aid he and his cargo eventually reached his apartments in safety.

There is another amusing anecdote told of this decayed, but still independent lawyer. The Governor of Edinburgh Castle had been in want of a respectable cook, and applied to Mr Creech, the bookseller, to do what he could to procure one. Creech having found some difficulty in fulfilling the commission, felt

* A glass of claret was then equal in price to a peck of potatoes. The origin of this saying is attributed to Mr Creech, bookseller, but afterwards became a standing remark with Macpherson.

considerably annoyed by the frequent messages from the Castle concerning the much-wanted cook. One day the Governor's black lackey came into the shop to make the usual inquiry. The Bailie observed Macpherson pass the door at the moment, and determining to get rid of his black tormentor by any means, directed Mungo's attention to the bacchanalian, who happened to be sober at the time, it being then early in the forenoon. The servant, assured that Macpherson was a cook in want of a situation, marched boldly after the lawyer, and giving him a gentle tap on the shoulder, said "The Governor wants to see you at the Castle."—"Just now?" inquired Macpherson, his countenance brightening up with the anticipation of something to his advantage.—"Soon as possible," said Mungo.

Macpherson immediately returned to the West Bow, cropped his beard of three day's standing, and, assisted by *Sodom* and *Gomorrah*, prepared for the appointment. His sisters were equally on the tiptoe of expectation as to what the Governor could possibly be wanting in such haste. Macpherson made various conjectures, but in vain. Every suggestion appeared to him unlikely, save the commencement of some important process, which nothing but his superior talents could have pointed him out as the proper person to undertake. Brushed up, and bedecked in something like the style of his better days, the renovated Writer to the Signet hurried to the Castle, and was ushered into—the *lobby!* where, to his astonishment, he was desired to wait till the Governor came. This, to a W.S., was the reverse of courtesy; but he naturally supposed the apparent incivility arose from the ignorance of the lackey, and imagined the mistake would soon be rectified by the Governor himself. The Governor came. "Well, have you got a character?" was his first salutation. "A character!" said Macpherson, astonished beyond measure at such a question being put to a *lawyer*. "Why, what do you mean by a character?"—"Have you *not* got a character?" repeated the Governor, "To be sure I've got a character!" replied Macpherson, still more astonished. "Where is it then, can't you show it?"—"Show it!" reiterated the lawyer, his bluff cheeks colouring with a sense of insult, "there's not a gentleman in Edinburgh but knows me!"—"That may be," said the Governor, "but no one should presume to ask a place without having a character in his pocket."—"The d——l take the place—what place have I solicited? Why, I was sent for to speak with the Governor."—"What are you?" said the latter, at last conceiving the possibility of a mistake. "I'm a Writer to the Signet," answered Macpherson, with corresponding dignity of manner. "Writer to the Signet! astonishing—this is all a mistake—I *wanted a Cook!*"—"Confound you and your cook both!" vociferated the indignant W.S., turning on his heel and hurrying off to drown his mortification in a meridian libation. Nothing so easily irritated Macpherson in after times as any allusion to this unlucky incident.

There was one redeeming virtue in the character of Macpherson rarely to be found in professional men, and least of all in such a character as himself, which speaks more than language can do for the natural goodness of his heart.

Rather than allow any person whom he had been employed to prosecute to be put in jail, he has been frequently known to advance the sum himself, even when he had not the most distant chance of repayment.

Mr Macpherson died on the 9th of May 1814. His sister, *Sodom*, died in Gillespie's Hospital only a few months ago.

The centre figure, ROGER HOG, Esq. of Newliston, whose amplitude of back is so well delineated, was formerly one of the Directors of the Bank of Scotland, and a regular attender of their meetings. He has been already pretty fully described in No. XVII.

No. LXVII.

THE REV. JOHN M'LURE.

CHAPLAIN TO THE GRAND LODGE.

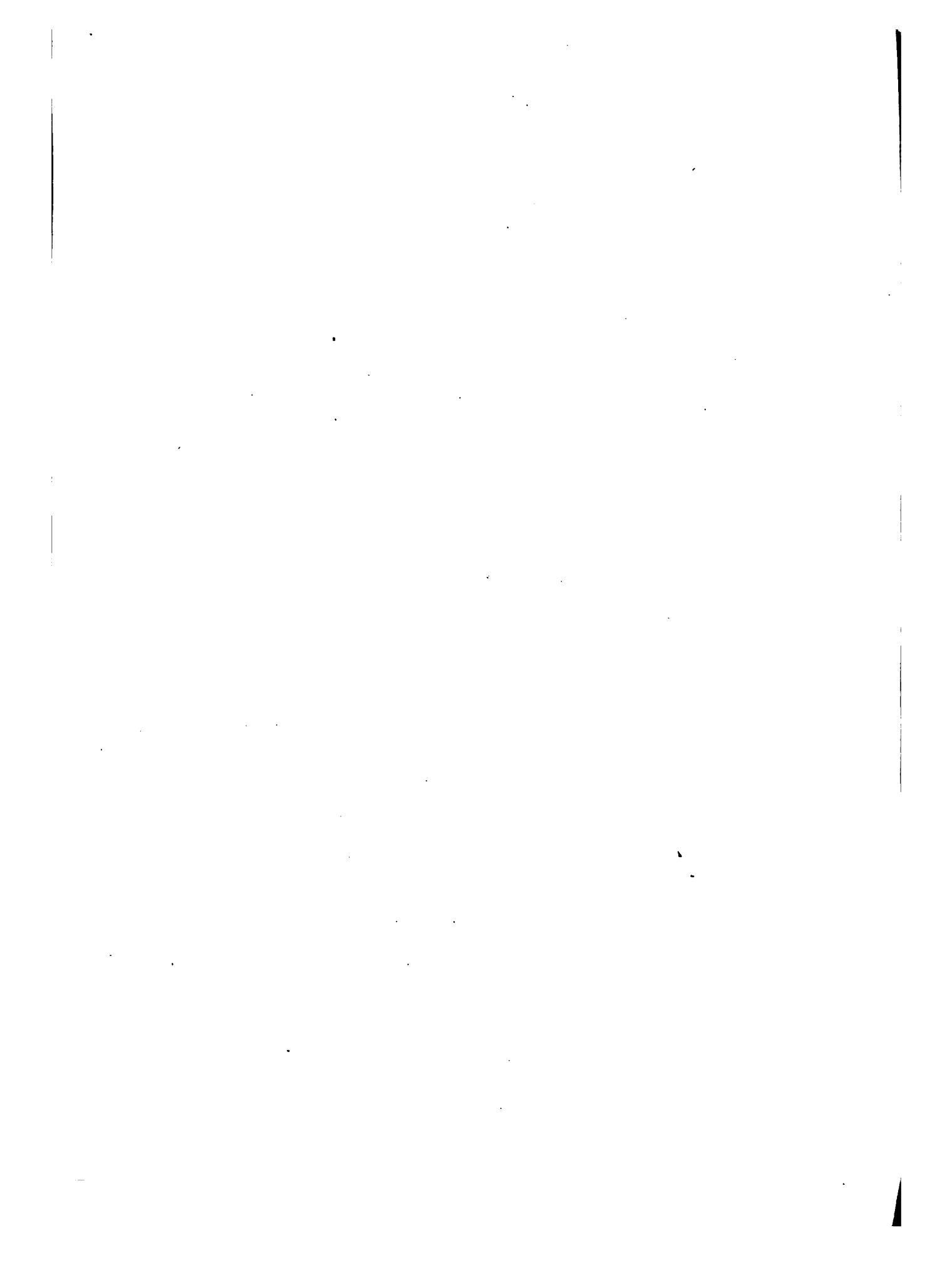
MR M'LURE was originally educated for the church, and obtained the clerical title by being licensed to preach, after undergoing the usual trials. It was not his fortune, however, to obtain a kirk. A few embarrassing years of "hopes deferred" entirely deadened his ambition for the pulpit; and at last, abandoning all intention of "clinging by the horns of the altar," he settled down in Edinburgh as a teacher of writing, arithmetic, and book-keeping.

In the memorable year 1745, Mr M'Lure, being then a young man, was a member of the Trained Band. Marching on one occasion to Musselburgh, in expectation of meeting with a party of the rebels, it is told of the teacher, that having made up his mind to be shot, he had fixed a quire of paper—symbolic of his profession—to his breast, on which the following memorandum was written:—"This is the body of John M'Lure, writing-master in Edinburgh—let it be decently interred!" This sepulchral direction happily proved unnecessary. John was not slain, but lived to become for many years "Grand Chaplain" of the "Grand Lodge of Scotland;" and throughout a long life maintained "the character of a good man and an excellent mason, being considered the oracle of the craft in Edinburgh."

Mr M'Lure died in 1787. He was married, and left several children, two of whom, Alexander and Hamilton, were bred to the medical profession. The former went abroad. The latter was several years a surgeon in Edinburgh, and died not long after his father.



K. 1887
GRAND CHAPLAIN







No. LXVIII.

MR ALEXANDER WOOD,

SURGEON.

THE pencil of Kay has done justice to the memory of this eminent surgeon and very excellent man, by the production of two striking portraits of him. The one here prefixed possesses the real octogenarian demeanour of the "kind old Sandy Wood," who is represented as passing along the North Bridge with an umbrella under his arm, in allusion to the circumstance of his having been the first person in Edinburgh who made use of that very convenient article—now so common.

MR WOOD's father was the youngest son of Mr Wood of Warriston, in Mid-Lothian—now the property of the Earl of Morton. He long possessed a house and grounds, situated immediately to the north of Queen Street, and rented from the Town of Edinburgh, where Mr Wood was born, in the year 1725.

Mr Wood completed his medical education in Edinburgh; and having taken out his diploma, he established himself at Musselburgh, where he practised successfully for some time. He then removed to Edinburgh, became a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, and entered into a copartnership with Messrs Rattray and Congalton, men of eminence in their day, and to whose practice he subsequently succeeded.

Being gifted with strong natural talents, great tact, and an activity of mind and person rarely surpassed; and possessing a perfect simplicity and openness of character, with a singularly benevolent disposition and peculiar tenderness of heart, Mr Wood soon rose to high professional celebrity.

Not long after connecting himself with Messrs Rattray and Congalton, he married Miss Veronica Chalmers, second daughter of George Chalmers, Esq. W.S., an individual of great worth and respectability. In reference to this connexion a very pleasing anecdote is told. Mr Wood, on obtaining the consent of the lady, having proposed himself to Mr Chalmers as his son-in-law, that gentleman addressed him thus:—"Sandy, I have not the smallest objection to you—but I myself am not rich, and *should*, therefore, like to know how you are to support a wife and family?" Mr Wood put his hand into his pocket, drew out his lancet-case, and said, "I have nothing but this, sir, and a determination to use my best endeavours to succeed in my profession." His future father-in-law was so struck with this straightforward and honest reply, that he immediately exclaimed, "Vera is yours!"

Notwithstanding a certain bluntness and decision of manner, which was liable to be occasionally misunderstood, and which gave rise to some curious scenes and incidents in the course of his professional practice, Mr Wood's philanthropy and kindness were proverbial; and his unremitting attention to the distresses of the indigent sick, whom he continued to visit in their wretched dwellings, after he had given up general practice, was a noble trait in his character. What has been said of the illustrious Boerhaave may be equally applied to him—that "he considered the poor as his best patients, and that he never neglected them." To his other qualities he added an enthusiastic warmth and steadiness in his friendships, with a total freedom from selfishness—and in his social relations, that kind and playful manner, which softened asperities, and rendered available all the best sympathies and affections of which human nature is susceptible; and being of a most convivial disposition, his company was courted by all ranks. In fact, few men have ever been so universally beloved as Mr Wood, and proportionally numerous are the testimonies to his worth.

During the long course of his useful career, he enjoyed the unanimous good will and approbation of his brethren, who, without any jealous feelings, allowed him the palm of superiority he deservedly merited—a tribute due, not only to the soundness of his practical knowledge, and the dexterity of his skill in operating, (which tended much to raise the reputation of the surgical department of the Royal Infirmary,) but to his personal character.

In a fragment of a fifth Canto of "Childe Harold," which appeared in "Blackwood's Magazine" for May 1818, he is thus alluded to:—

" Oh ! for an hour of him who knew no feud—
The octogenarian chief, the kind old Sandy Wood ; "

and, in a note on this stanza, he is spoken of as "Sandy Wood—one of the delightful reminiscences of old Edinburgh—who was at least eighty years of age, when, in high repute as a medical man, he could yet divert himself in his walks with the "Hie Schuil laddies," or bestow the relics of his universal benevolence in feeding a goat or a raven."

He is also alluded to in a spirit of tenderness and affection by Sir Walter Scott, in a prophecy put into the mouth of Meg Merrilees;* and the late celebrated John Bell, who had been a pupil of Mr Wood, dedicates to him his first volume of Anatomy in a concise but elegant tribute to his skill, his disinterested conduct, and public and private virtues.†

Mr Wood's character is farther commemorated by the late Sir Alexander

* "A gathering together of the powerful shall be made amidst the caves of the inhabitants of Dundedin. Sandy is at his rest. They shall beset his goat; they shall profane his raven; they shall blacken the buildings of the Infirmary; her secrets shall be examined; a new goat shall bleat, until they have measured out and run over fifty-four feet nine inches and a half."

† "To Alexander Wood, surgeon, whose abilities and skill, and disinterested conduct, have raised him by common consent to the first rank in a most useful profession, conducting him in honour to that period of life in which he must feel, with pleasure, how completely he enjoys the confidence of the public and the esteem of all good men—this book of anatomy is presented by his pupil John Bell."

Boswell of Auchinleck in these lines—part of an epitaph composed by him on Mr Wood:—

“ But cold the heart that feels no genial glow,
Pondering on him whose ashes sleep below :
Whose vivid mind, with grasping power, could reach
Truths that the plodding schools can never teach.
Who scorned, in honesty, the spacious wiles
Of dull importance, or of fawning smiles :
Who scouted feelings frittered and refined,
But had an ample heart for all mankind.”

The following anecdote is a proof of Mr Wood's popularity with the lower classes. During a riot in Edinburgh, some of the mob, mistaking him at night (owing to a great resemblance in figure) for Sir James Stirling, then the Lord Provost of the City, and at that time far from being a favourite, seized Mr Wood on the North Bridge, and were going to throw him over the parapet, when he cried out, “ I'm lang Sandy Wood—tak' me to a lamp and ye'll see.” Instead of executing their vengeance, he was cordially cheered and protected from farther outrage.

Sir James and Mr Wood, although thus in such different esteem with the lower class of the inhabitants of Edinburgh, were intimate friends. It is told of them, that on one occasion the Provost—with his cocked hat, and long spare figure—meeting the Doctor in the High Street, he jocularly put a guinea into his hand, and giving a piteous account of his sufferings from indigestion, and the state of his stomach, asked his advice. The Doctor—with a figure almost equally spare, and the same head-dress—retreated from the Provost, who continued to follow him, reproaching him for pocketing the money without giving him any opinion on his case. At last, after this scene had lasted for some considerable space, Mr Wood replied to Sir James's remonstrances :—
“ You're quite wrong, Sir James ; I have been giving you the best possible advice all this while. If you'll take hold of my coat-tail, and only follow me for a week as you've been doing for the last ten minutes, you'll have no more trouble with your stomach.”

Although very confident in his own practice, and very decided, Mr Wood never failed to call in the aid of his professional brethren when there appeared to be real danger. The celebrated Dr Cullen and he were frequently in attendance together, and on the most friendly and intimate footing. Upon one occasion, they were in the sick room of a young nobleman of high promise, who was afflicted with a severe fever—the Doctor on one side of the bed, in his usual formal and important manner, counting the patient's pulse, with his large stop-watch in his hand—Mr Wood on the other, and the parents anxiously waiting the result. The Doctor abruptly broke the silence—“ We are at the crisis ; in order to save him, these pills must be taken instantly,” producing some from his waistcoat pocket. Mr Wood, who had a real affection for the young Lord, shook his head significantly, and said with a smile, “ O Doctor, Doctor, nature has already done her work, and he is saved. As to your pills—you

may just as well gie him some pease meal." The young Lord, now a most distinguished and venerable Earl, tells this anecdote of his old friend, and always adds, that he remembers the whole scene as well as if it had happened yesterday.

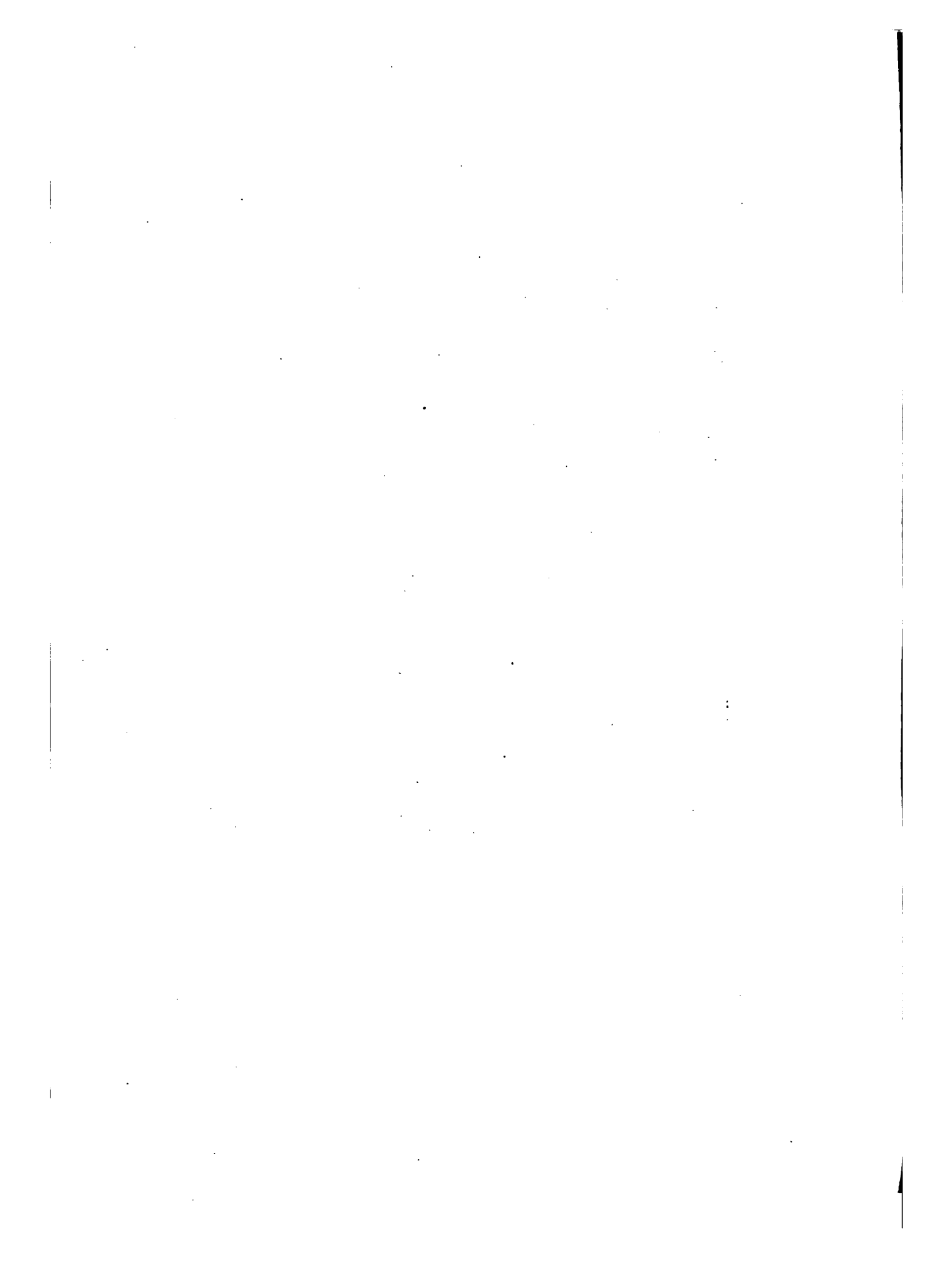
No. LXIX.

THIS Print represents MR WOOD in the full possession of all that activity and fire for which he was distinguished in the hey-day of middle age. The cane is thrown smartly over his shoulder, while the whole bearing of the portrait is admirably illustrative of the bold and original character of the man.

In addition to the foregoing reminiscences, there are a few other characteristic anecdotes of Mr Wood, which may with propriety be given here. The following humorous one has been related to us by a citizen of Edinburgh, now in his eighty-third year. This gentleman was at the time an apprentice to Deacon Thomson, a glover and breeches-maker by profession. The Deacon was a guzzling hypochondriacal sort of a genius, and, like many others of similar habits, was subject to much imaginary misery. One night he took it into his head that he was dying. Impressed with this belief, he despatched a messenger for Mr Wood; but, being very impatient, and terrified that the "grim king" should seize him before the Doctor could come to his rescue, and suspecting that the messenger might dally with his mission, the dying breeches-maker started from the couch of anticipated dissolution, and went himself to the house of Mr Wood. He knocked violently at the door, and, in a state of great perturbation, told the servant to hurry his master to his house, "For," continued he, "Deacon Thomson is just dying!" Having thus delivered his doleful mission, away hobbled the epicurean hypochondriac, anxious, from certain unpleasant suggestions which instinctively occurred to him, to get again into bed before the Doctor should arrive. In this wise resolution he was however balked: Mr Wood, although half undressed when he received the summons, lost no time in hastening off, and pushed past the Deacon just as he was threading his way up his own turnpike.—"Oh, Doctor, it is *me*," said the hypochondriac. "You!" exclaimed the justly-indignant Sandy Wood, at the same time applying the cane to the back of his patient with the utmost good-will. He then left him to ascend the remainder of the stair with the accelerated motion which the application of this wholesome regimen inspired, and so effectual proved the cure, that our informant has frequently heard the Deacon mention the circumstance in presence of the Doctor.

Another ridiculous story is told of Mr Wood. The Honourable Mrs * * * had taken a fancy to sit upon hens' eggs, in order that she might hatch chickens. Her relations, becoming alarmed for her health, went to consult the Doctor on the subject, who, promising a perfect cure, desired them to make his compliments to their friend, (with whom he was well acquainted,) and tell her that





he meant to have the pleasure of drinking tea with her that evening. The lady, resolving to do honour to her guest, ordered her servant to place her best set of china on the table, and to wheel it up opposite her nest. Mr Wood made his appearance at the appointed hour, and having, with all due gravity, partaken of a dish of tea, he suddenly laid hold of a portion of the favourite tea-equipage, rushed towards the window, which he opened, and seemed about to throw the whole into the street. Mrs * * *, alarmed at the insane-like proceeding of her guest, flew to save the valuable china, when Mr Wood, seizing the opportunity, *herried* the nest, and broke all the eggs. By this stratagem the whim of his patient was effectually put to flight.

Mr Wood was an enthusiastic admirer of the great Mrs Siddons. At her first visit to Edinburgh, many were the fainting and hysterical fits among the fairer portion of the audience. Indeed, they were so common that to be supposed to have escaped might almost have argued a want of proper feeling. One night, when the house had been thrown into confusion by repeated scenes of this kind, and when Mr Wood was most reluctantly getting from the pit (the favourite resort of all the theatrical critics of that day) to attend some fashionable female, a friend said to him in passing, "This is glorious acting, Sandy," alluding to Mrs Siddons; to which Mr Wood answered, "Yes, and a d——d deal o't too," looking round at the fainting and screaming ladies in the boxes.

When routs were first introduced in Edinburgh, they were very formal affairs, being in no way congenial to the manners or temper of the people. At one of the first that had been given, by a person of distinction, the guests were painfully wearing away the time, stiffly ranged in rows along the sides of the room, and looking at each other, the very pictures of dullness and ennui, when Mr Wood was announced, who, casting his eyes round him, proceeded up the empty space in the middle of the drawing-room, and then addressed the lady of the house, saying, "Well, my lady, will ye just tell me what we are all brought here to do?"—an inquiry which every one felt to be so perfectly appropriate that it was followed by a hearty laugh, which had the effect of breaking up the formality of the party, and producing general hilarity and cheerfulness for the rest of the evening.

If Mr Wood's kindness of disposition widely diffused itself towards his fellow-creatures, young and old, he was almost equally remarkable for his love of animals. His pets were numerous, and of all kinds. Not to mention dogs and cats, there were two others that *individually* were better known to the citizens of Edinburgh—a sheep and a raven, the latter of which is alluded to by Sir Walter Scott, in the quotation which has been given from Guy Mannering. Willy, the sheep, pastured in the ground adjoining to the Excise Office, now the Royal Bank, and might be daily seen standing at the railings, watching Mr Wood's passing to or from his house in York Place, when Willy used to poke

his head into his coat-pocket, which was always filled with supplies for his favourite, and would then trot along after him through the town, and sometimes might be found in the houses of the Doctor's patients. The raven was domesticated at an ale and porter-shop in North Castle Street, which is still, or very lately was, marked by a tree growing from the area against the wall. It also kept upon the watch for Mr Wood, and would recognize him even as he passed at some distance along George Street, and taking a low flight towards him, was frequently his companion during some part of his forenoon walks—for Mr Wood never entered his carriage when he could possibly avoid it, declaring that unless a vehicle could be found that would carry him down the closes and up the turnpike stairs, they produced nothing but trouble and inconvenience.

It may be superfluous to state that the subject of these brief sketches was rarely spoken of as *Mr Wood*, but as *Sandy Wood*. This general use of the Christian name, instead of the ordinary title, proceeded from a feeling the very opposite of disrespect. It was the result of that affection for his person with which his universal and inexhaustible benevolence and amiable character inspired all who knew him.

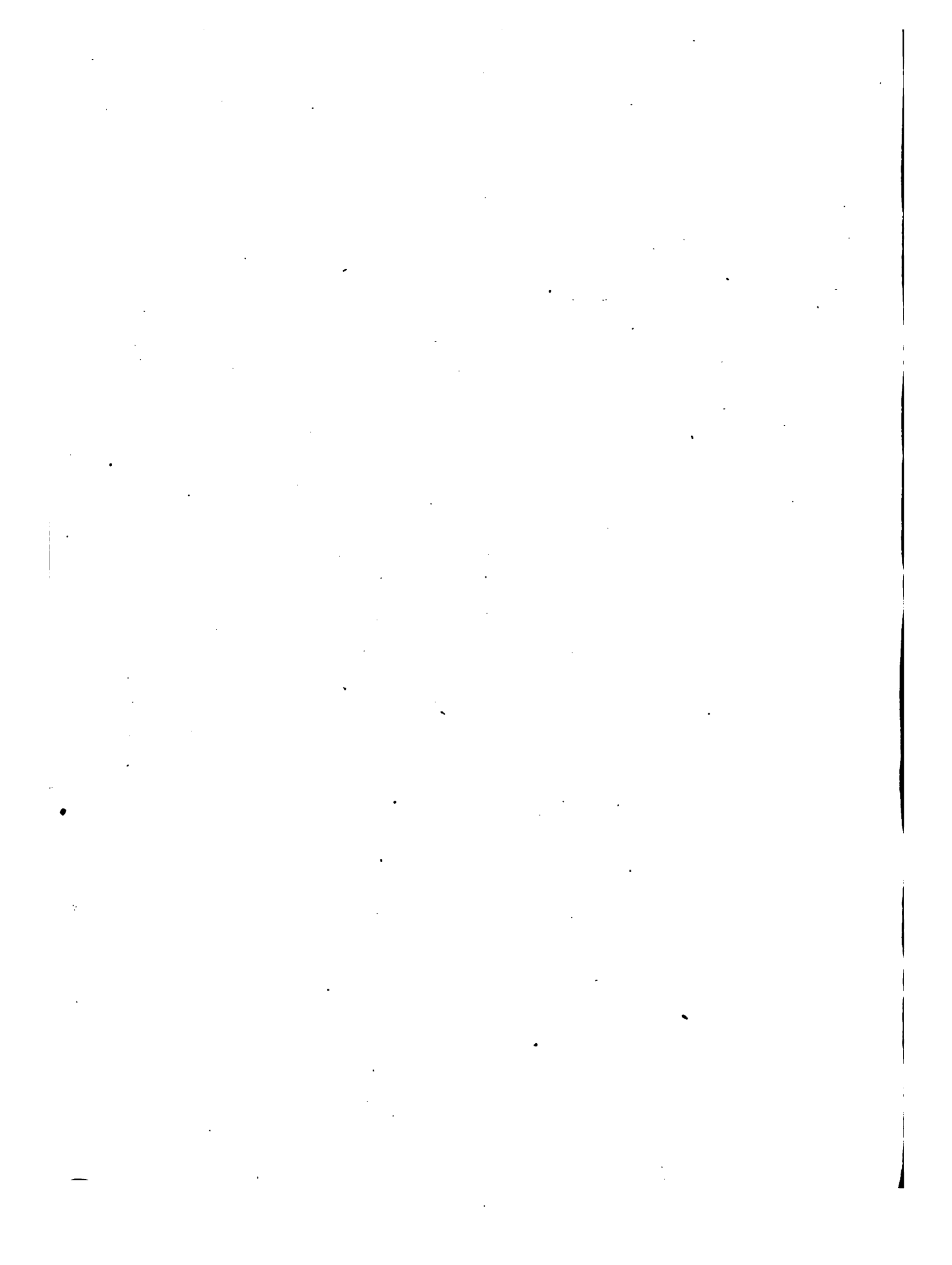
Mr Wood continued to maintain that professional eminence which had been so early conceded to him, and was considered the unrivalled head of the surgical practice in his native city, till within a few years of his death, when increasing infirmities obliged him to retire. He died on the 12th of May 1807, at the advanced age of eighty-two.

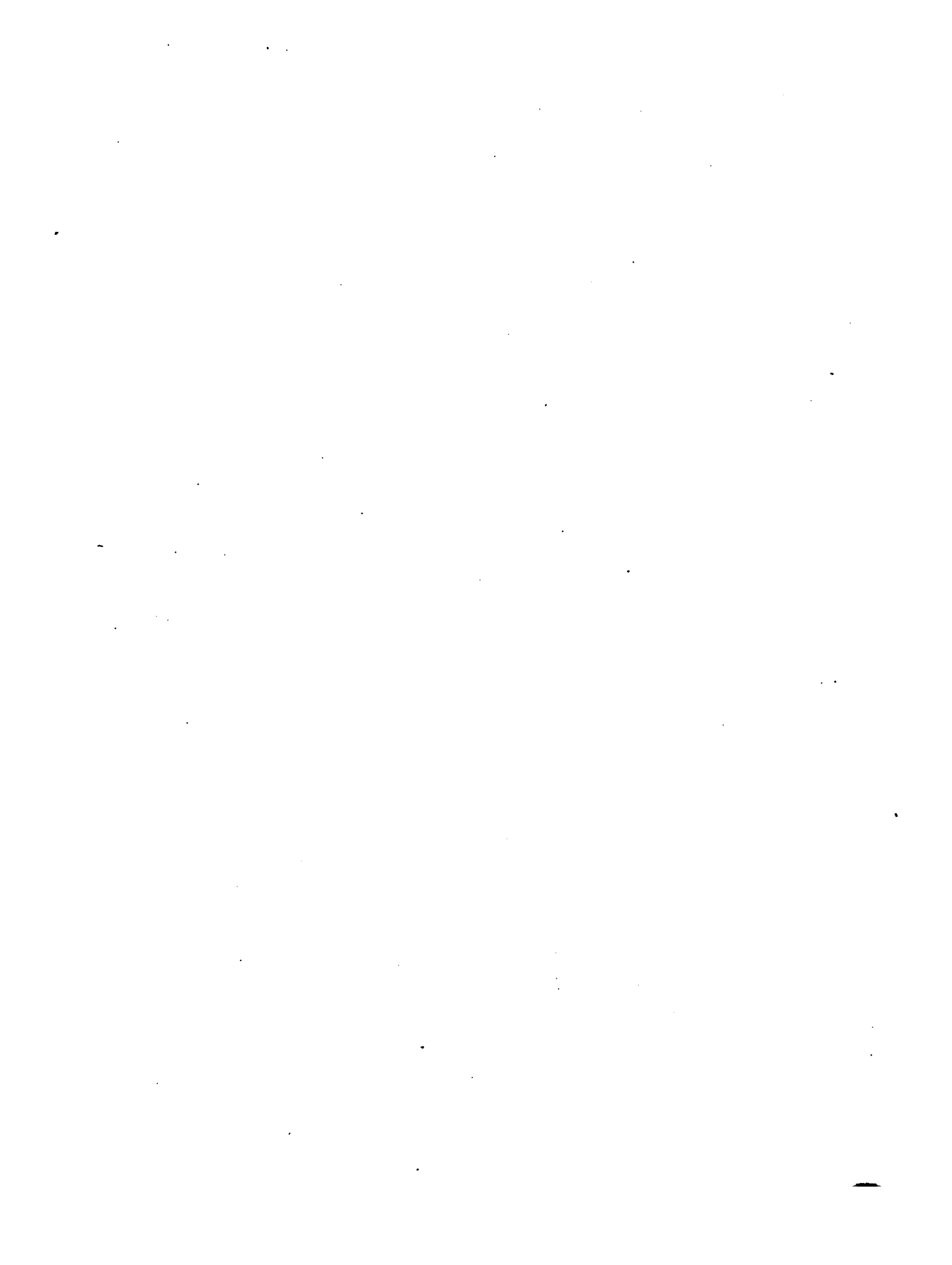
No. LXX.

CAPTAIN HIND.

THIS person was an officer of the 55th regiment of foot, and his peculiar appearance seems to have attracted the notice of the artist. The half-running walk—open mouth, and military hat, gently o'er-topping a few hairs, are unequivocal indications of something eccentric, and at once vouch for the accuracy of the likeness. The 55th regiment was stationed at Edinburgh Castle in 1790, and had the complement of men filled up by drafts from the 35th. They then proceeded to Newcastle, where they were embarked for foreign service. During his residence in Edinburgh, Captain Hind was a devoted admirer of a celebrated beauty, whose portrait will be forthcoming in a subsequent part of the work. But the attachment, it is said, was not reciprocal; on the contrary, the "ladie fair" actually detested her admirer. This dislike, however, had only the effect of increasing, instead of abating his passion.









L'HAY del'le leulp! 1772

No. LXXI.

ROBERT M'QUEEN OF BRAXFIELD,

LORD JUSTICE-CLERK.

THIS eminent lawyer and judge of the last century was born in 1722. His father, John M'Queen, Esq. of Braxfield, in the county of Lanark, was educated as a lawyer, and practised for some time; but he gave up business on being appointed Sheriff-Substitute of the Upper Ward of Lanarkshire. He was by no means wealthy, and having a large family, no extravagant views of future advancement seem to have been entertained respecting his children. Robert, who was his eldest son, received the early part of his education at the grammar-school of the county town,* and thereafter attended a course at the University of Edinburgh, with the view of becoming a writer to the signet.

In accordance with this resolution, young M'Queen was apprenticed to Mr Thomas Gouldie, an eminent practitioner, and, during the latter period of his service, he had an opportunity of superintending the management of processes before the Supreme Court. Those faculties of mind which subsequently distinguished him both as a lawyer and a judge, were thus called into active operation; and feeling conscious of intellectual strength, he resolved to try his fortune at the bar. This new-kindled ambition by no means disturbed his arrangement with Mr Gouldie, with whom he continued until the expiry of his indenture. In the meantime, however, he set about the study of the civil and feudal law, and very soon became deeply conversant in the principles of both, especially of the latter.

In 1744, after the usual trials, he became a member of the faculty of advocates. In the course of a few years afterwards, a number of questions arising out of the Rebellion in 1745, respecting the forfeited estates, came to be decided, in all of which M'Queen had the good fortune to be appointed counsel for the crown. Nothing could be more opportunely favourable for demonstrating the young advocate's talents than this fortuitous circumstance. The extent of knowledge which he displayed as a feudal lawyer, in the management of these cases—some of them of the greatest importance—obtained for him a degree of reputation which soon became substantially apparent in the rapid increase of his general practice. The easy unaffected manners of Mr M'Queen also tended much to promote success. At those meetings called consultations, which, for many years after his admission to the bar, were generally held in taverns, he “peculiarly shone,” both in legal and social qualifications. Ultimately his practice became so great, especially before the Lord Ordinary, that he has been repeatedly

* The grammar-school of Lanark was at this period in considerable repute. The teacher's name was Thomson, a relative of the author of “The Seasons,” and married to his sister.

known to plead from fifteen to twenty causes in one day. Some idea of the influence and high character to which he had attained as an advocate, may be gathered from the couplet in "the Court of Session Garland," by Boswell:—

" However of our cause not being ashamed,
Unto the whole Lords we straightway reclaimed ;
And our petition was appointed to be seen,
Because it was drawn by Robbie Macquosen.

On the death of Lord Coalston, in 1766, Mr M'Queen was elevated to the bench by the title of Lord Braxfield—an appointment, it is said, he accepted with considerable reluctance, being in receipt of a much larger professional income. He was prevailed upon, however, to accept the gown by the repeated entreaties of Lord President Dundas,* and the Lord Advocate, afterwards Lord Melville. In 1780 he was also appointed a Lord Commissioner of Justiciary; and, in 1787, was still more highly honoured by being promoted to the important office of Lord Justice-Clerk of Scotland.

Lord Braxfield was equally distinguished on the bench as he had been at the bar. He attended to his duties with the utmost regularity, daily making his appearance in court, even during winter, by nine o'clock in the morning; and it seemed in him a prominent and honourable principle of action to mitigate the evils of the "law's delay," by a despatch of decision, which will appear the more extraordinary considering the number of causes brought before him while he sat as the Judge Ordinary of the Outer House.

As Lord Justice-Clerk, he presided at the trials of Muir, Palmer, Skirving, Margarot, Gerrald, &c. in 1793-4. At a period so critical and so alarming to all settled governments, the situation of Lord Justice-Clerk was one of peculiar responsibility, and indeed of such a nature as to preclude the possibility of giving entire satisfaction. During this eventful period Lord Braxfield discharged what he conceived to be his duty with firmness, and in accordance to the letter and spirit of the law, if not always with that leniency and moderation which in the present day would have been esteemed essential.

The conduct of Lord Braxfield, during these memorable trials, has indeed been freely censured in recent times as having been distinguished by great and unnecessary severity; but the truth is, he was extremely well fitted for the crisis in which he was called on to perform so conspicuous a part; for, by the bold and fearless front he assumed, at a time when almost every other person in authority quailed beneath the gathering storm, he contributed not a little to curb the lawless spirit that was abroad, and which threatened a repetition of that reign of terror and anarchy which so fearfully devastated a neighbouring country. But if the conduct of his lordship in those trying times was thus distin-

* "Mr M'Queen had contracted an intimacy with Mr Dundas, afterwards Lord President of the Court of Session, and his brother, Lord Melville, at a very early period of life. The Lord President, when at the bar, married the heiress of Bonnington, an estate situated within a mile of Braxfield. During the recesses of the Court, these eminent men used to meet at their country seats, and read and study law together. This intimacy, so honourable and advantageous to both, continued through life."

guished by high moral courage, that of the prisoners implicated in these transactions, it cannot be denied, was marked by equal firmness. During the trial of Skirving, this person conceiving Braxfield was endeavouring by his gestures to intimidate him, boldly addressed him thus:—"It is altogether unavailing for your lordship to menace me; for I have long learned to fear not the face of man."

As an instance of his great nerve, it may be mentioned that Lord Braxfield, after the trials were over, which was generally about midnight, always walked home to his house in George Square alone and unprotected. He was in the habit, too, of speaking his mind on the conduct of the Radicals of those days in the most open and fearless manner, when almost every other person was afraid to open their lips, and used frequently to say, in his own blunt manner, "They would a' be muckle the better o' being *hanged!*"

When his lordship paid his addresses to his second wife, the courtship was carried on in the following characteristic manner. Instead of going about the bush, his lordship, without any preliminary overtures, deliberately called upon the lady, "and popped the question" in words to this effect:—"Lizzy, I am looking out for a wife, and I thought you just the person that would suit me. Let me have your answer, aff or on, the morn, and nae mair about it?" The lady, who understood his humour, returned a favourable answer next day, and the marriage was solemnized without loss of time.

Lord Braxfield was a person of robust frame—of a warm or rather hasty temper—and, to "ears polite," might not have been considered very courteous in his manner. "Notwithstanding, he possessed a benevolence of heart," says a contemporary, "which made him highly susceptible of friendship, and the company was always lively and happy of which he was a member."

His lordship was among the last of our judges who rigidly adhered to the *broad* Scotch dialect. "Hae ye ony counsel, man?" said he to Maurice Margarot, when placed at the bar. "No."—"Do you want to hae ony appointit?" continued the judge. "No," replied Margarot, "I only want an interpreter to make me understand what your lordship says!"

Of Lord Braxfield and his contemporaries there are innumerable anecdotes. When that well-known bacchanalian, Lord Newton, was an advocate, he happened one morning to be pleading before Braxfield, after a night of hard-drinking. It so occurred that the opposing counsel, although a more refined devotee of the jolly god, was in no better condition. Lord Braxfield observing how matters stood on *both sides of the question*, addressed the counsel in his usual unceremonious manner—"Gentlemen," said he, "ye may just pack up your papers and gang hame; the tane o' ye's rifting punch, and the ither's belching claret—and there'll be nae gude got out o' ye the day!"

Being one day at an entertainment given by Lord Douglas to a few of his neighbours in the old Castle of Douglas, port was the only description of wine produced after dinner. The Lord Justice-Clerk, with his usual frankness, demanded of his host if "there was nae claret in the Castle?"—"I believe there

is," said Lord Douglas, "but my butler tells me it is not good."—"Let's pree 't," said Braxfield, in his favourite dialect. A bottle of the claret having been instantly produced and circulated, all present were unanimous in pronouncing it excellent. "I propose," said the facetious old judge, addressing himself to Dr M'Cubbin, the parish clergyman, who was present, "as a *fama clamosa* has gone forth against this wine, that you *absolve* it."—"I know," replied the Doctor, at once perceiving the allusion to Church-court phraseology, "that you are a very good judge in cases of civil and criminal law; but I see you do not understand the laws of the Church. We never absolve *till after three several appearances!*" Nobody could relish better than Lord Braxfield the wit or the condition of absolution.

After a laborious and very useful life, Lord Braxfield died on the 30th of May 1799, in the 78th year of his age. He was twice married. By his first lady, Miss Mary Agnew, niece of the late Sir Andrew Agnew, he had two sons and two daughters. By his second lady, Miss Elizabeth Ord, daughter of the late Lord Chief Baron Ord, he had no children.

His eldest son, Robert Dundas M'Queen, inherited the estate of Braxfield, and married Lady Lilius Montgomery, daughter of the late Earl of Eglintoun. The second entered the army, and was latterly a Captain in the 18th regiment of foot. The eldest daughter, Mary, was married to William Honyman, Esq. of Graemsay, afterwards elevated to the bench by the title of Lord Annandale, and created a Baronet in 1804. The second, Catherine, was married to John Macdonald, Esq. of Clanronald.

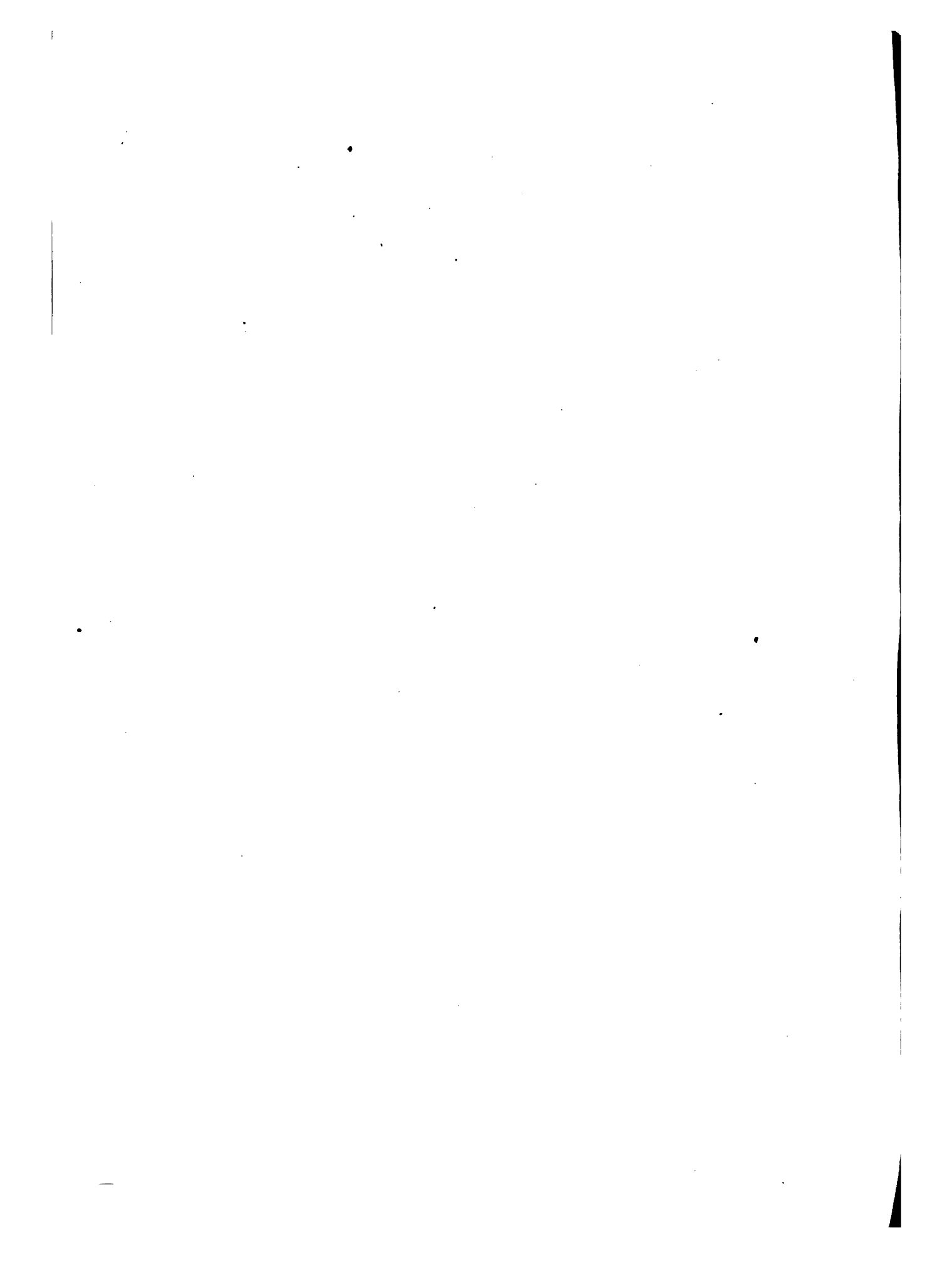
No. LXXII.

GEORGE PRATT, (THE TOWN-CRIER.)

THIS person was Town-Crier of Edinburgh about the year 1784, and made himself remarkable for the manner of his address in discharging the duties of his office. This singularity consisted in an extremely pompous delivery, which proceeded from the very high opinion he entertained of the importance and dignity of his situation as a public officer.

Deeply imbued with this sentiment, George gave forth his intimations to the inhabitants—it might be to announce the arrival of a fresh supply of skate—with an air and manner at once extremely imposing and edifying. It is painful to add, however, that he utterly failed in impressing the boys of the town with the same respect for his person and his office that he entertained himself. So far from this, the irreverent young rogues took every opportunity of annoying him. They laughed at his dignity, and persecuted him with the cry of "Quack, quack!"—a monosyllable which was particularly offensive to his ears. This cry was sometimes varied into "Swallow's nest," a phrase which he also abominated, as it made an allusion to a personal deformity. This was a large excrescence, or wen, that grew beneath his chin.









No. LXXIII.

THE REV. DR JOHN ERSKINE,

LATE OF THE OLD GREYFRIAR'S CHURCH, EDINBURGH.

THIS is a very faithful representation of the above worthy man and no less excellent divine. The attitude in which he is delineated is that which he invariably assumed on entering upon his discourse, and is remarkably in unison with the description of the "colleague of Dr Robertson," furnished by the graphic pen of Sir Walter Scott, in the novel of *Guy Mannering*.*

DR ERSKINE, born on the 2d of June 1721, was the eldest son of John Erskine, Esq. of Carnock, Professor of Scots Law in the University of Edinburgh, and well known as the author of the *Institutes of the Law of Scotland*. The early education of young Erskine was conducted with a view to the legal profession, of which his father was so much an ornament; and although he had almost from infancy discovered a more than common seriousness of temper, and, as he advanced in years, manifested a strong predilection in favour of the pulpit, he repressed his aspirations so far as to submit to the usual course of discipline formerly prescribed in Scotland for those who intended to become advocates.

He entered the University of Edinburgh towards the end of the year 1734, where he acquired a thorough classical knowledge, and became acquainted with the principles of philosophy and law. Among other youths of great promise at that time at the college, was the late Principal Robertson, with whom young Erskine formed an intimate friendship, which, notwithstanding the shades of opinion in matters of church polity, and even in some doctrinal points, mutually entertained by them in after life, continued to be cherished, amid their public contests, with unabated sincerity. While in the ardent pursuit of his classical acquirements, however, Dr Erskine by no means neglected the study of theology; on the contrary, his predilections in favour of the pulpit had increased, and so strong was his conviction of the duty of devoting his talents to the service of religion, that he resolved to acquaint his parents with his determination, and to endure their utmost opposition. The comparatively *poor* Presbyterian Church of Scotland had never been an object of aristocratical ambition; besides this pecuniary objection, the friends of young Erskine conceived that the profession of the law, while it presented a wider field, was more adapted for the display of

* "His external appearance was not prepossessing. A remarkably fair complexion, strangely contrasted with a black wig, without a grain of powder; a narrow chest and a stooping posture; hands which, placed like props on either side of the pulpit, seemed necessary rather to support the person than to assist the gesticulation of the preacher; a gown, (not even that of Geneva,) a tumbled band, and a gesture, which seemed scarcely voluntary, were the first circumstances which struck a stranger."

his talents, and were therefore entirely hostile to his views. Their opposition, however, could not shake his resolution—he persevered in his theological studies, and was, in 1742, licensed to preach by the Presbytery of Dunblane.

The future progress of the young divine, till his settlement in the metropolis, is easily told :—“ In May 1744, he was ordained minister of Kirkintilloch, in the Presbytery of Glasgow, where he remained till 1754, when he was presented to the parish of Culross, in the Presbytery of Dunfermline. In June 1758, he was translated to the New Greyfriar’s, one of the churches of Edinburgh. In November 1766, the University of Glasgow conferred on him the honorary degree of doctor of divinity ; and, in July 1767, he was promoted to the collegiate charge of the Old Greyfriar’s, where he had for his colleague his early friend Dr Robertson.”

In these various movements towards that field of honour and usefulness, in which his talents ultimately placed him, Dr Erskine carried along with him the universal respect of his parishioners. They had been delighted and improved by his public instructions—and were proud of having had a clergyman amongst them, at once combining the rare qualifications of rank, piety, and learning. He was most exemplary in his official character ; ever ready to assist and counsel his parishioners, he “ grudged no time, and declined no labour, spent in their service.”

Dr Erskine was not only zealous for the interests of religion at home, but equally so for its diffusion abroad ; and in order to obtain the earlist and most authentic intelligence of the state of the Gospel in the colonies of North America, where a remarkable concern for religion had manifested itself about the time he obtained his license, he commenced a correspondence with those chiefly interested in bringing about that interesting event. He also, some time after, opened a communication with many distinguished divines on the Continent of Europe—a correspondence which he unweariedly cultivated during the remainder of his life. This practice added much to his labour, not only by an increased and voluminous epistolary intercourse, but in “ being called upon, by the friends of deceased divines, to correct and superintend the publication of posthumous works.” *

In his continental correspondence, the Doctor had seriously felt the want of a knowledge of the Dutch and German languages ; and, at an advanced period of life, actually set about overcoming this difficulty, which he successfully accomplished in a remarkably short space of time. A rich field, in the literature of Germany, being thus thrown open to him, the result of his industry was soon manifested by the publication of “ Sketches and Hints of Church History and Theological Controversy, chiefly translated and abridged from modern foreign writers,” the first volume of which appeared in 1790, and the second in 1798. †

* The greater part of the works of President Edwards, of Dickenson, of Stoddart, and Fraser of Allness, were brought out in this way.

† On the appearance of this volume, Dr Erskine was violently assailed by an anonymous writer under

As might have been expected from the Doctor's enthusiastic character, he took an active interest in the Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge. So long as his strength continued, he was one of its most zealous members; and when the infirmities of age would no longer permit him to attend personally at their meetings, he was frequently consulted on matters of importance to the Society at his own house.

Dr Erskine had never been in possession of much corporeal strength; and his weakly constitution began the sooner to feel the effects of approaching old age. Indeed, it is much to be wondered that his slender frame so long endured such an excess of mental, and even bodily labour, as distinguished his whole life. For several winters previous to his death he had not been able to preach regularly; and, for the last thirteen months, was compelled to leave it off altogether, his voice having become so weak as to be incapable of making himself heard. His mind, however, survived unimpaired amid the gradual decay of his bodily powers. His judgment was as clear, and his memory as good as in his younger years; and almost to the last minute of existence he maintained the pursuit of those labours which had constituted the business and the pleasure of his existence. On the 19th of January, the day previous to his demise, he was occupied in his study till a late hour. About four o'clock on the morning of the 20th (1803) he was suddenly taken ill; and although the alarm was immediately given, he expired, seemingly without a struggle, before his family could be collected around him.

His body was interred in the Greyfriar's Churchyard. The funeral was attended by a vast train of mourners, and an immense concourse of spectators assembled to witness the last obsequies to the remains of their venerable and much respected pastor. At the request of his widow, the Reverend Dr Davidson, who was an esteemed friend of the deceased, preached a funeral sermon in the Old Greyfriar's Church, on the following Sunday, to a numerous and affected audience.

Dr Erskine was married to the Honourable Miss M'Kay, daughter of Lord Reay, by whom he had a family of fourteen children, but only four survived—David Erskine, Esq. of Carnock, and three daughters, one of whom was the mother of James Stewart, Esq. of Duncarn.

Of Dr Erskine's voluminous writings we cannot here even attempt a bare enumeration. They are, however, extensively known throughout the country. His first work, "On the Necessity of Revelation," written in his twenty-first year, and in which he had occasion to advocate some of the opinions maintained in Dr Warburton's "Divine Legation of Moses," procured him the approbation and friendship of that distinguished prelate. His detached sermons, published

the signature of "A. C.," by whom he was accused of favouring the views of the "Illuminati"—a German sect, at the head of whom was Nicholai, a celebrated bookseller and publisher—either through ignorance of the characters of those men whose writings he had patronized and introduced to the notice of the British public, or "with the view to revive the old exploded hue-and-cry against Popery." To the accusations thus put forward, Dr Erskine, then in his seventy-eighth year, successfully replied in a pamphlet entitled "Dr Erskine's Reply to a Printed Letter directed to him by "A. C.," in which the gross misrepresentations in said letter are considered."

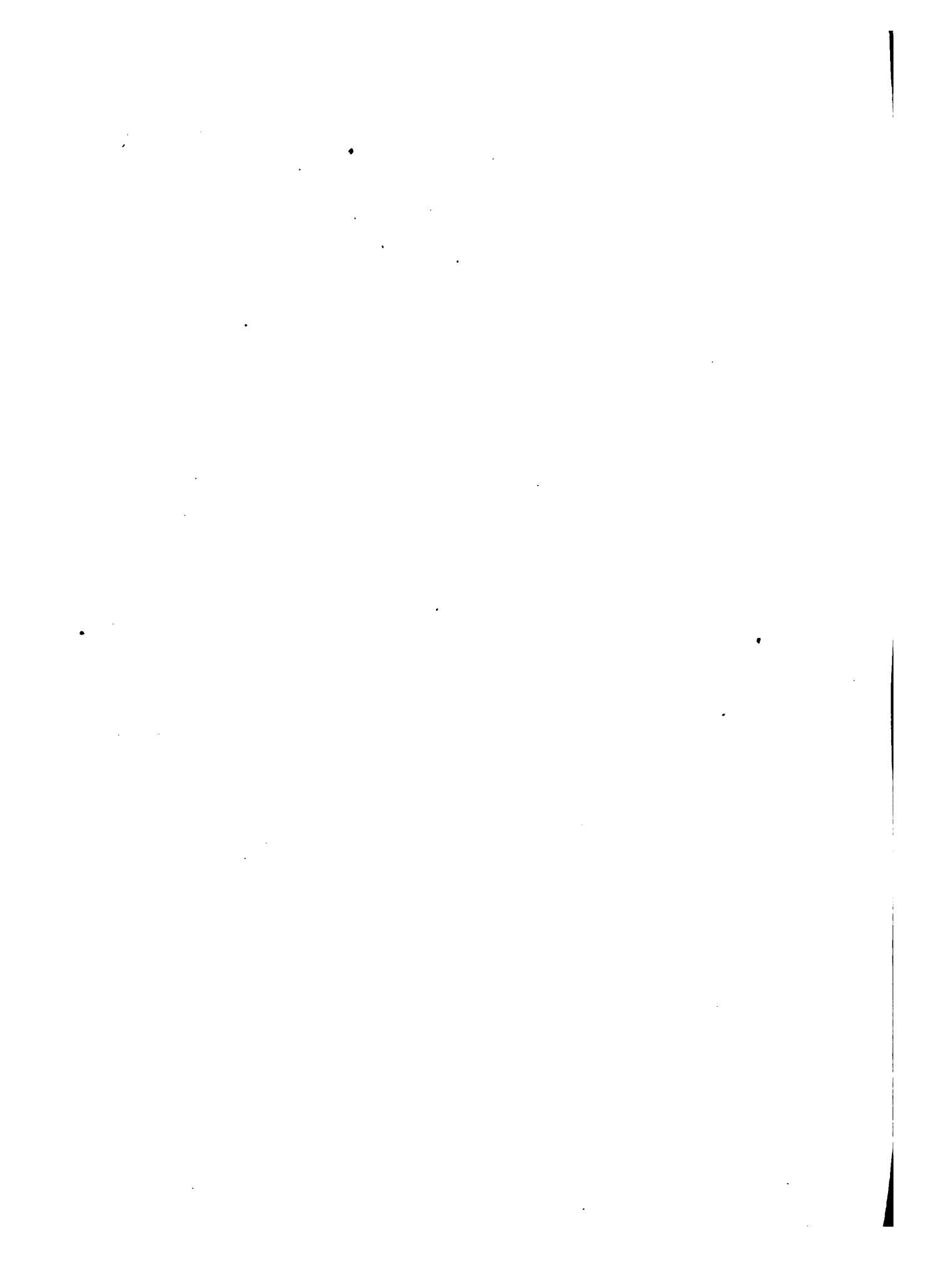
while a country clergyman, were remarkable for a propriety and correctness of taste; while his Theological Dissertations, which appeared so early as 1765,* were full of masterly disquisition on some of the most interesting points of divinity; and, in short, his whole works are distinguished for "precision of thought and originality of sentiment."

Dr Erskine's opinions in matters of Church polity are at once known from the prominent position which he maintained for many years as leader of the popular party in the General Assembly, in opposition to his old schoolfellow, Dr Robertson. In state politics he was equally bold and independent in his views. In 1769, on the breach with America, he published a discourse entitled "Shall I go to war with my American brethren?" which is said to have given great offence to some of those in high quarters at the time, and was considered as treasonable by many. It is even said the Doctor could get no bookseller to run the risk of publication, which seems to be corroborated by the fact that the sermon was actually published in London without any publisher's imprint being attached to it. The discourse, however, was reprinted at Edinburgh, in 1776, with the author's name, and the addition of a preface and appendix, even more in opposition to the views of government than the discourse itself. On the subject of the American war he was strongly opposed to the sentiments of Mr Wesley, who was a warm defender of the somewhat questionable policy pursued by the ministers of that ruinous period. He was opposed also to the constitution afterwards given to Canada, conceiving that the Roman Catholic religion had been too much favoured; and, in 1778, he was equally opposed to the attempt then made to repeal certain enactments against the Catholics of Great Britain, on which subject he entered into a correspondence with Mr Burke, which was published. Without reference to their merits, the political sentiments of Dr Erskine were at least entitled to respect, from the conscientiousness with which they were entertained, and the independence with which they were asserted.

As a man, Dr Erskine was remarkable for the simplicity of his manner, and in his conduct exhibited a genuine example of that humility and charitableness so prominent in the character of Christianity. He was ardent and benevolent in his disposition, and his affections were lasting and sincere. In proof of this, his continued friendship for his opponent, Dr Robertson, is instanced as a noble example. The moderate, and perhaps somewhat *liberal*, views of the latter gentleman respecting the repeal of the penal statutes against the Catholics in Scotland, had so highly incensed the mob of Edinburgh in 1778, that a furious party had actually assembled in the College-yard for the purpose of demolishing the house of the Principal, which they would in all probability have done, in defiance of the military, had they not been quieted and dispersed by

* These were—"Mr Wesley's Principles Detected; or a Defence of the Preface to the Edinburgh edition of 'Aspasio Vindicated,' in answer to Mr Kershaw's Appeal."—"Theological Dissertations, (1.) On the Nature of the Sinai Covenant. (2.) On the Character and Privileges of the Apostolic Churches. (3.) On the Nature of Saving Faith."







tings not altogether in accordance with his clerical character. Like most other *gudewives*, Mrs Webster did not silently succumb to his repeated infringements of domestic regularity; and, in answer to her close-questioning on these occasions, the minister used frequently to excuse himself by saying that he had "just been down calling for Dr Erskine, and the Doctor had insisted on him staying to supper." Dr Erskine, at length coming to understand in what manner his good name was made the excuse of his friend's derelictions, resolved in a good-humoured way to put a stop to the deception. "One night, therefore, when Dr Webster was actually in his house, in an accidental way, he made an excuse to retire, and leaving Webster to sup with Mrs Erskine, went up to the Castlehill to call for Mrs Webster. Dropping in as if nothing unusual was in the wind, he consented to remain with Mrs Webster to supper; and thus the two clergymen supped with each other's wives, and in each other's houses, neither of the said wives being aware of the fact, and Webster equally ignorant of the plot laid against his character for verity. Long before Webster's usual hour for retiring, Dr Erskine took leave of Mrs Webster, and returned to his own house, where he found his friend as yet only, as it were, pushing off from the shore of sobriety. When his time was come, Webster went home, and being interrogated as usual, 'Why,' answered he, now at least speaking the truth, 'I've just been down at Dr Erskine's.' The reader may conceive the torrent of indignant reproof which, after having been restrained on a thousand occasions when it was deserved, burst forth upon the head of the unfortunate and for once innocent Doctor. When it had at length subsided, the Doctor discovered the hoax which had been played off upon him; and the whole affair was explained satisfactorily to both parties next day, by Dr Erskine's confession. But Mrs Webster declared that, from that time forth, for the security of both parties from such deceptions, she conceived it would be as well, when Dr Webster happened to be supping with Dr Erskine, that he should bring home with him a written affidavit, under the hand of his host, testifying the fact."

Another anecdote, highly characteristic of his unbounded charity and extreme simplicity of manner, is told of the worthy and unostentatious old clergyman. For several Sabbaths Dr Erskine had returned from Church *minus* his pocket handkerchief, and could not account for the loss. The circumstance attracted the particular notice of Mrs Erskine, who had for sometime past observed an elderly looking poor woman constantly occupy a seat on the stair leading to the pulpit. Suspicion could scarcely attach itself to so demure a looking Christian; but Mrs Erskine resolved to unriddle the mysterious affair, by sewing a handkerchief to the pocket of Mr Erskine's Sunday coat. Next Sabbath, the old gentleman thus "armed against the spell," was proceeding in his usual manner towards the pulpit, when, on passing the suspected demure-looking carling, he felt a gentle "nibble" from behind. The Doctor's displeasure could not be roused however; he turned gently round, and clapping "detected guilt" on the head, merely remarked, "No the day, honest woman; no the day!"





No. LXXV.

DR HENRY MOYES,

LECTURER ON CHEMISTRY, &c.

Dr MOYES was born in the year 1750 at Kirkaldy, in the county of Fife. What station in society his father held, and even what profession he followed, we are not told. It seems probable, however, that he was possessed of some property, because his son was sent to college and enjoyed the benefit of a liberal education.

He lost his sight, when about three years old, by the small-pox, so that he hardly retained any recollection of having ever seen. Yet he stated, that he remembered having once observed a water-mill in motion, and that, even at that early age, his attention was attracted by the circumstance of the water flowing in one direction, while the wheel turned round in the opposite. This he represented as having staggered his infant mind before he could comprehend it. He was sent to school, but what was his progress there is unknown. From thence he was removed to the University, where, judging from his subsequent acquirements, it is to be presumed he made considerable progress. One thing is certain, that in early life he undoubtedly acquired the fundamental principles of mechanics, music, and the languages; and displayed a knowledge of geometry, algebra, optics, astronomy, chemistry, and in short of most of the branches of the Newtonian philosophy. He seems to have delighted in, and to have had a great taste for mechanics, for we are told that at a very early age he made himself acquainted with the use of edge-tools so perfectly that he was able to make little wind-mills, and even constructed a loom with his own hands.

His first attempt at delivering public lectures commenced at Edinburgh, where he lectured on the theory and practice of music, but not meeting with the encouragement he expected, he relinquished the design. What was the more immediate cause of his resolving to deliver a course of lectures on chemistry is unknown; but it was probably the interesting and miscellaneous nature of the subjects treated of, the reputation of Dr Black, professor of that science in Edinburgh, who was then in his zenith, and the uncommon avidity with which his class was attended by the students. As he was the first blind man who proposed to lecture on chemistry, the novelty of the proposal naturally excited curiosity and attention.* But so careless have been his biographers, that they

* Dr Moyes' lectures were usually well attended. During his stay in Edinburgh, a curious mistake occurred betwixt two ladies. The one being from the country, and having heard of the celebrated conjuror, Doctor Boaz, who was at the same time giving lectures on the art of legerdemain, her curiosity was on edge to witness his sleight-of-hand. The city dame, who of course was her cicerone on all occasions, mis-

have not mentioned in what year he commenced, how many courses he delivered, nor whether he made any attempt at this time in any other city or town of his native country. We have heard him lecture. There was nothing very remarkable in his manner. His voice was good, and his articulation excellent. There was no appearance of affectation or conceit, nor of that impudent forwardness which gives offence and creates disgust. Nevertheless, he never seemed in the least degree embarrassed, but handled his subject in such a way as to convince his audience that he was well prepared. The accuracy of his language, considering the disadvantages with which he had to contend, was wonderful; and if there were any defect, it consisted in sometimes making use of very bold metaphors, which could have been as well spared. His epithets were in general well applied, and seldom had a tendency towards bombast. The address which he discovered in performing experiments excited great interest in the company present, and afforded them the highest pleasure.

He left Scotland in 1779, and directed his route towards England; but in what part of the country he commenced his career is not known. From the strong partiality to Manchester, which he retained during the whole subsequent part of his life, it is conjectured he made his debut in that place.

As a proof of the liberal manner in which he was treated in England, it is sufficient to mention that he spent six years in making a tour through it. He delivered lectures not only in the capital, but almost in every city and considerable town. The introductions which he carried from one part of the country to another, were from persons of the first character and influence in society, and he had the art of rendering himself so agreeable to those whom he visited, that he was much courted, and every person was proud to do him a service. In most places which he visited, it was reckoned a distinguished honour to be admitted into his company, and have an opportunity of witnessing the conversation of so uncommon a genius, who, though blind from his infancy, had acquired so large a stock of curious, useful, and miscellaneous knowledge. His audience consisted of the most respectable people of the towns through which he passed.

Dr Moyes did not rest satisfied with having accomplished many laborious journies through South Britain. His aspiring temper and enterprising genius contemplated with ardour the idea of crossing the Atlantic, and pushing his fortune in America. Accordingly, for this purpose, he set sail in 1785. He was received with open arms by the Americans. His fame had gone before him, and in his progress through the continent of America he conversed with such persons as were distinguished for their learning and love of science. In some places the crowds that repaired to his lectures were exceedingly great. The churches—that is, the places generally appropriated to the purposes of pub-

understood the expression of her friend, and thought she meant the blind lecturer, Dr Moyes. Chairs being ordered for the two ladies, they were accordingly set down at the lecture-room of the philosopher. The country lady anxiously waited for a display of those wonderful tricks she had anticipated; but was at last astonished, although not the less gratified, to find that she had been made an unintentional auditor of an interesting experimental lecture on chemistry.

lic worship—were thrown open to him to lecture in, and every rank and condition rivalled each other who should show him the greatest hospitality and kindness. He was much more popular in that country than he had been even in England. The attempt at delivering lectures on any branch of philosophy was a very great novelty, but especially from a person who had not the use of eyes.

The following paragraph respecting him appeared in an American newspaper of that day :—“The celebrated Dr Moyes, though blind, delivered a lecture upon optics, delineating the properties of light and shade,” &c. It therefore seems that he did not confine his lectures strictly to chemistry when abroad. His American tour is understood to have been a very profitable speculation.

On his return to his native country he took a house in Edinburgh, where he resided for some time. Before he went to America he had projected to make a tour through Ireland, but was prevented. In 1790, he crossed the channel and arrived in Belfast. He visited all the principal towns in the island, and remained a few months in Dublin, and was highly gratified with the reception he met. He now determined to take up his residence at Manchester, and there spend the remainder of his life.*

This remarkable character was rather tall in his person, and of a swarthy complexion. His temper was cheerful, and his conversation interesting. He was remarkably abstemious. He had a natural dislike to animal food of every description, and tasted no ardent spirits nor fermented liquors. He bequeathed his fortune, which was considerable, to his brother,† and died on the 10th of August 1807, in the fifty-seventh year of his age.

* After his return from Dublin, Dr Moyes delivered a lecture in Edinburgh, on the 14th of April 1795, for the benefit of the “Industrious Blind” employed at the Aylum. His audience consisted principally of the higher classes, and it was calculated that there could be no less than eleven hundred individuals present. The exact amount of the sum collected is not stated, but it is understood to have been very large. “It is scarcely necessary to add,” says a notice of this lecture, “that the Doctor’s observations on the best means of preserving the blessings of health, were received with every mark of that unfeigned satisfaction which sound philosophy, expressed with all the elegance and energy of language, never fails to produce in enlightened minds, especially when directed to the purposes of utility and benevolence.”

† He was one of the Episcopal clergymen of St Paul’s Chapel, then in the Cowgate. He is alluded to in that wicked poem, the “Town Eclogue”—Edinburgh, 1804—written by the Rev. William Aureol Hay Drummond. The Cowgate Chapel, from the eloquent discourses of that amiable clergyman, the Rev. Mr Alison, was usually crowded whenever he preached. In allusion to this, Hay says,

“But things are better, where each Sabbath day
Gay fashion’s coaches crowd the Chapel’s way,
Save when Old Moses’ dreary, drowsy drone,
Makes maidens titter, and Sir William [Forbes] groan.”

The poet says, with what truth we know not, that “Moses” (Mr Moyes), in treating of the happiness of the life to come, observed that one great benefit was, “An easy introduction to the acquaintance of those very respectable persons the angels.”

No. LXXVI.

SIR WILLIAM FORBES OF PITSLIGO,

BANKER IN EDINBURGH.

THE words of the engraving, "The good shall mourn a brother—all a friend," were never more appropriately applied than in allusion to the character of Sir William Forbes. In the language of the Rev. Mr Alison, there was no person of the age "who so fully united in himself the same assemblage of the most estimable qualities of our nature; the same firmness of piety, with the same tenderness of charity; the same ardour of public spirit, with the same disdain of individual interest; the same activity in business, with the same generosity in its conduct; the same independence towards the powerful, and the same humanity towards the lowly; the same dignity in public life, with the same gentleness in private society."

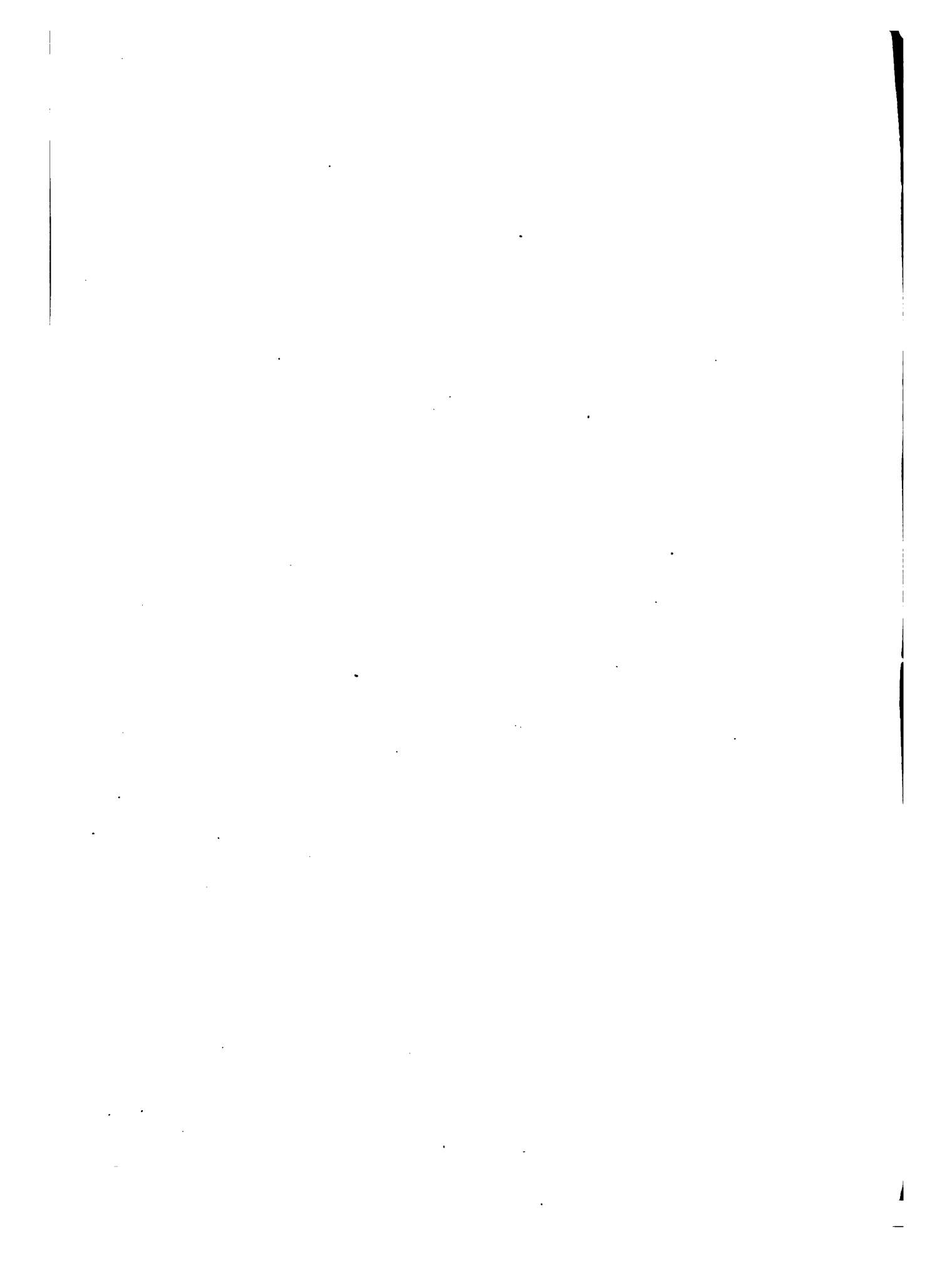
SIR WILLIAM FORBES was born at Edinburgh on the 5th of April 1739. He was descended (both paternally and maternally) from the ancient family of Monymusk, and by his paternal grandmother from the Lords Pitsligo. His father, who was bred to the bar, died when Sir William was only four years of age. His mother, thus left with two infant sons, and very slender means of support, retired among her friends in Aberdeenshire. His younger brother did not long survive.

Though nurtured in rather straitened circumstances, Sir William by no means lacked an excellent education, which he received under the superintendence of his guardians, Lord Forbes, his uncle, Lord Pitsligo, his maternal uncle, Mr Morrison of Bogny, and Mr Urquhart of Meldrum, among whom he was trained to the habits and ideas of good society; but it was principally to the sedulous care of his widowed mother, who instilled into his young mind the sentiments of rectitude and virtue, that, as he frequently in after life declared, he "owed every thing." Both his parents belonged to the Scottish Episcopal Church, to which communion Sir William remained during his life a steady and liberal adherent.

In 1753 Lady Forbes returned to Edinburgh, with the view of choosing some profession for her son, who had now attained his fourteenth year. Fortunately, through the influence of a friend, Mr Farquharson of Haughton, he was taken into the banking-house of Messrs Coutts, and bound apprentice to the business the following year.

Sir William's term of servitude lasted for seven years, on the expiry of which he acted for two years more in the capacity of a clerk in the establishment. During this time he continued to reside with his mother, and felt much satis-





faction in being enabled, from the gradual increase of his salary, to contribute to her comforts. By his undeviating rectitude, steady application, and the display of very superior qualifications for the profession, he had early attracted the notice of Messrs Coutts, with whom he was, in 1761, admitted into partnership, with only a small share in the profits. Owing to the death of one of these gentlemen, and the retirement of the other, on account of bad health, (the other two brothers being settled in London,) a new company was formed in 1763, consisting of Sir William Forbes, Mr James Hunter, (afterwards Sir James Hunter Blair,) and Sir Robert Herries. Although neither of the Messrs Coutts had any share in the new concern, the firm continued under the old name until 1773, when, on the withdrawal of Sir Robert Herries, who formed a separate establishment in London, the name of the firm was changed to that of Forbes, Hunter, and Co. Sir William was at the head of the concern, over which he ever after continued to preside, and the uncommon success which attended its operations is in no small degree attributable to his peculiar sagacity and prudence. In 1783 the Company commenced to issue notes, which obtained an extent of credit almost without parallel.

Sir William married, in 1770, the eldest daughter of Dr (afterwards Sir James) Hay, which event obliged him to separate from the "venerated guide of his infant years," who lived to a good old age, happy in the growing prosperity and kind attention of her son.*

Sir William had now fairly commenced that career of usefulness which so much distinguished his long life. Naturally of a benevolent disposition, his attention was early directed to the charitable institutions of the city, many of which, previous to his taking an interest in them, were in a languishing state. The Charity Workhouse, of which he became a Manager in 1771, felt, in an especial manner, the effects of his persevering solicitude. In 1777 he published a pamphlet on the improvement of this institution, which was characterized as "full of practical knowledge and enlightened benevolence;" and he continued through life to take an active interest in its welfare. Of the Orphan Hospital, too, he was a Manager for many years, and always, from 1774, one of its most zealous and efficient directors.

The erection of the late High School, in which Sir Walter Scott and other eminent men were educated, is another proof of Sir William's public spirit as a citizen, and his active perseverance and power of overcoming difficulties. He was a zealous Manager of the Royal Infirmary, to which, at his death, he left L.200. The Lunatic and Blind Asylums owed much to his exertions; and, in short, no improvements were contemplated, and no benevolent work projected, which did not find in Sir William ready and efficient support.

In accordance with a long-cherished desire of restoring his family, which had been reduced by attainder, to its former dignity and fortune, Sir William embraced a favourable opportunity of purchasing seventy acres of the upper barony

* She died in 1789.

Sir John Stuart Forbes, who succeeded him in the title and estates, married a daughter of the late Marquis of Lothian; the second, Charles, is a banker in the firm of Sir William Forbes and Co.; and the third, James, is at present Professor of Natural Philosophy in the University of Edinburgh.

The scene represented in the background of the Print is referable to the charity almost daily bestowed by Sir William on a number of "pensioners," who were in the habit of frequenting the Parliament Square at stated periods, where they were certain of meeting their benefactor as he entered or retired from the banking-house. The same practice is still continued by several of the partners of that respectable firm.

No. LXXVII.

THOMAS FRASER—(A NATURAL.)

THIS is another of those "Characters" for which Edinburgh was so much famed some fifty or sixty years ago. Tom was a thorough mountaineer, and extremely fond of the "dew." He would do any thing for a sip of his favourite beverage—dance, sing, run, fight, carry a load, or perform any thing at all, only promise him "a dram and a sneeshin." He is here represented as in possession of what seemed to him the very essence of human bliss—a glass of whisky—bestowed by his kind hostess, to whom his attitude and eye are significant of the most heartfelt gratitude.

Tom was employed as a sweeper about the stables of Mr Peter Ramsay, vintner,* at the Cowgate Port, where he constantly resided; and at night, a little straw, in one of the stalls, formed the shake-down of the poor natural. In short, the stable, as the song has it,

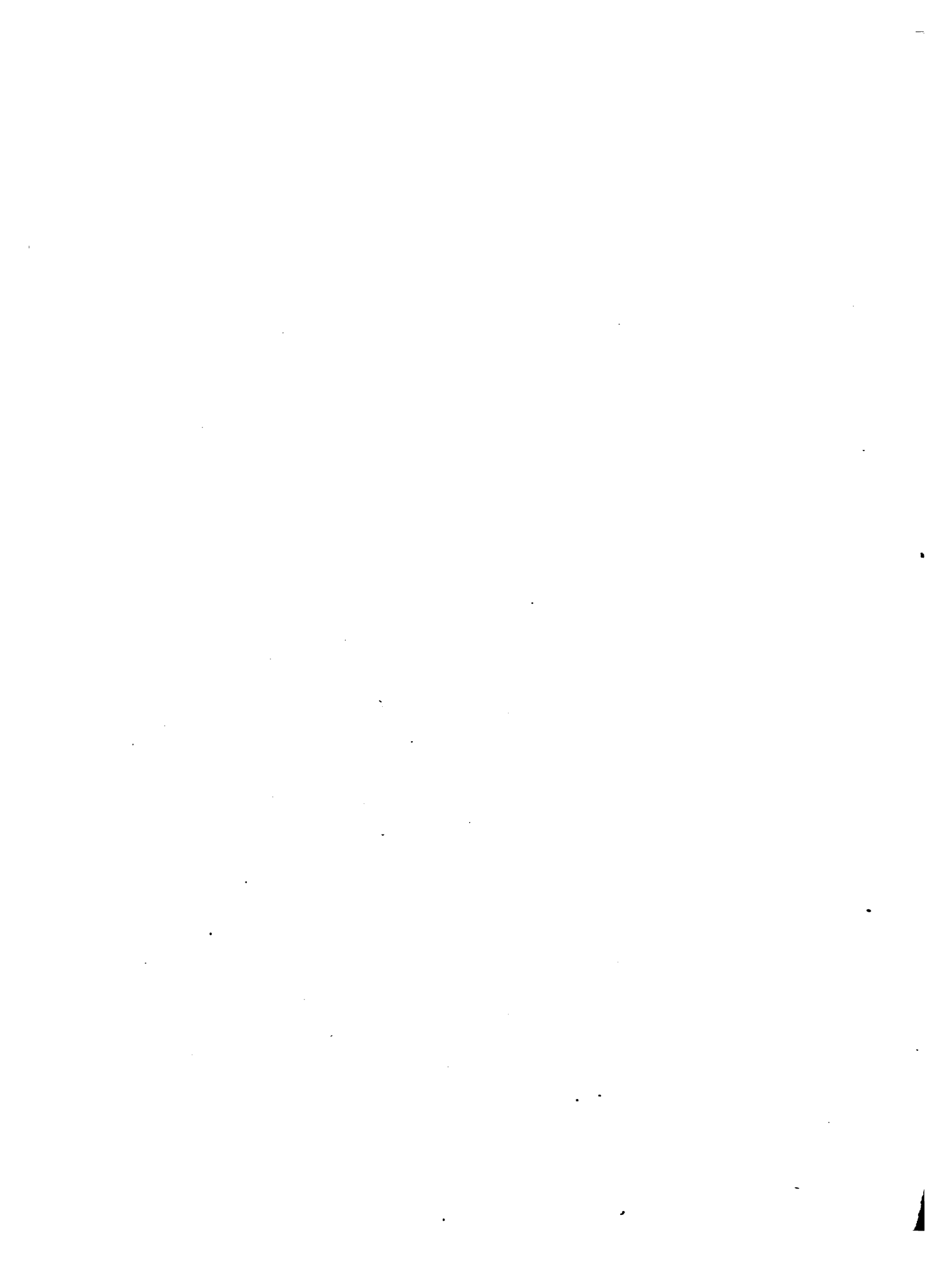
" Served him for kitchen, for parlour, and hall."

He never partook of any thing in the house, except when called in for the entertainment of a company, to whom, for a glass of whisky, he would either exhibit himself in a Highland reel, or sing a song, in which he could ingeniously accompany himself with a very harmonious bass, produced by his fingers upon the table or pannel of the door.—Thomas died in 1789.

* Brother to William Ramsay, Esq. the first proprietor of Barnton, and father of the late William Ramsay, Esq. banker. Ramsay's Inn was an establishment of great respectability in its day. The "Traditions of Edinburgh" mention that "General Paoli was its guest, in 1773;" the same authority adds, as illustrative of the more homely manners of former times, "that the sows upon which the late Duchess of Gordon, and her witty sister (Lady Wallace) rode, when children, were not the common vagrants of the High Street, but belonged to Peter Ramsay, the celebrated stabler in St Mary's Wynd, and were permitted to roam abroad. The two romps used to watch the animals as they were let loose in the forenoon from the stable-yard, and get upon their backs the moment they issued from the close."

The late Mr William Ramsay, of Charlotte Square, took great pleasure in talking of his father, and used to affirm that he was the best judge of horses and dogs in the kingdom.







A HIGHLAND CHIEFTAIN

No. LXXVIII.

THE MARQUIS OF HUNTLY,

AFTERWARDS

DUKE OF GORDON.

THIS Print represents the MARQUIS of HUNTLY, when about the age of twenty-one. He was born at Edinburgh on the 1st of February 1770. His first entry on public life was by adopting the profession of arms, and in being appointed Captain of an independent company of Highlanders raised by himself in 1790, and with which he joined the 42d regiment, or Royal Highlanders, the following year. Shortly afterwards, the regiment remained nearly a twelvemonth in Edinburgh Castle, during which period Kay embraced the opportunity of etching the "Highland Chieftain."*

In 1792, he entered the 3d regiment of Foot Guards as Captain-lieutenant. In 1793, when orders were issued by his Majesty to embody seven regiments of Scottish fencibles, the Duke of Gordon not only raised the Gordon Fencibles, but the Marquis made an offer to furnish a regiment for more extended service. Early in 1794, he accordingly received authority for this purpose, and so much did the family enter into the spirit of constitutional loyalty, that besides the Marquis, both the Duke and Duchess of Gordon "recruited in their own person." The result of such canvassing was soon manifest; in the course of three months the requisite numbers were completed, and the corps embodied at Aberdeen on the 24th June. As a matter of course the Marquis was appointed Lieutenant-colonel Commandant.

The first movement of the "Gordon Highlanders" was to England, where they joined the camp at Nettley Common, in Southamptonshire, and were entered in the list of regular troops as the 100th regiment. They were soon afterwards despatched for the Mediterranean, where the Marquis accompanied them, and where they remained for several years. Leaving his regiment at Gibraltar, his lordship embarked on board a packet at Corunna, on his passage home; but, after having been three days at sea, the vessel was taken by a French privateer, and the Marquis was plundered of every thing valuable: he was

* The daring exploit—a race on horseback, from the Abbey Strand, at the foot of the Canongate, to the Castle-gate—betwixt the Marquis and another sporting nobleman, still alive, which occurred about this period, will be remembered by many of the inhabitants of Edinburgh.

then placed on board a Swedish ship, in which he arrived at Falmouth in September 1796.

The "Gordon Highlanders" returned to Britain in 1798, but in consequence of the disturbances then breaking out in Ireland, they were immediately hurried off there. The Marquis directly followed, resumed the command, and was actively employed with the regiment until tranquillity was restored. Notwithstanding the irksome and disagreeable nature of a soldier's duty connected with civil commotion, the conduct of the "Gordon Highlanders" in Ireland was highly exemplary; so much so, that on leaving the county of Wexford, in which district they had been principally employed, an address was presented by the magistrates and inhabitants to the Marquis, in which, after paying a marked compliment to the orderly conduct of the men, they stated that "peace and order were established, rapine had disappeared, confidence in the Government was restored, and the happiest cordiality subsisted since his regiment came among them."

In the expedition to the Helder in 1799, the "Gordon Highlanders," whose number a short time previously had been changed to the 92d, with the Marquis at their head, formed part of General Moore's brigade, and although not engaged in repelling the first attack of the enemy, bore a distinguished part in the great action at Bergen on the 2d October, in which the Marquis was severely wounded.* So entirely did the conduct of the regiment on this occasion give satisfaction to General Moore, "that when he was made a Knight of the Bath, and obtained a grant of supporters for his armorial bearings, he took a soldier of the Gordon Highlanders, in full uniform, as one of these supporters, and a lion as the other."

The Marquis had obtained the rank of Colonel in the Army in 1796,—that of Major-General in 1801, and was placed on the North British Staff as such from 1803 till 1806, when he was appointed Colonel of the 42d, or Royal Highland Regiment.† At the general election of that year he was chosen Member of Parliament for Eye, in Suffolk; but he only remained a short time in the Commons, having been, on the change of Ministry which soon followed, summoned by writ to the House of Peers, by the title of Baron Gordon of Huntly, in the county of Gloucester. In 1808, he was raised to the rank of Lieutenant-General in the Army; and the same year, on the resignation of his father the Duke of Gordon, the Marquis was appointed Lord-lieutenant of the county of Aberdeen.

* His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales testified his approbation of the conduct of the Marquis on this occasion by the appropriate present of a Highland mull, set in gold, decorated with valuable Scotch pebbles, and inscribed with a handsome compliment in the Gaelic language.

† On the anniversary of the battle of Alexandria, the 21st March 1817, his Royal Highness the Duke of York, then President of the Highland Society, in the chair, presented the Marquis of Huntly, on behalf of the 42d Regiment, with a superb piece of plate, in token of the respect of the society for a corps which, for more than seventy years, had continued to uphold the martial character of their country. This his Royal Highness accompanied with an impressive speech, in which he recapitulated the various services of the corps, from the battle of Fontenoy down to those of Quatre Bras and Waterloo.

In the unfortunate "Walcheren Expedition," undertaken in 1809, under the late Earl of Chatham, the Marquis commanded the fourth division. The object of this armament, which had been fitted out on a very extensive scale, was the destruction of the fleet and arsenal at Antwerp, but except in the bombardment of Flushing, the expedition entirely failed of success.

With the Walcheren expedition closed the foreign military career of the Marquis of Huntly. His subsequent life was distinguished by a patriotic and active zeal in whatever tended to the honour or advantage of his native country. He was long a member, and frequently President of the Highland Society, an association which has done so much to improve the agriculture and condition of the peasantry of Scotland. As a mark of distinction, in 1813, the Marquis was appointed General of the ancient body denominated the Royal Archers of Scotland, or King's Body Guard. Of the Celtic Society, he was also an equally honoured member; and, in short, in all patriotic or national associations, he was found to yield enthusiastic co-operation.

On the death of his lordship's father in 1827, he succeeded to the dukedom of Gordon in Scotland, and the earldom of Norwich in England; and in the still more extended sphere of influence thus opened to him, the spirit which had animated the Marquis continued to be manifested in the Duke. The great improvements which he effected on his extensive estates—the exquisite taste displayed in laying out the grounds and ornamenting the lawns around the princely Castle of Gordon—together with his successful exertions in improving the breed of Highland cattle, and promoting agriculture, are well-known instances of the Duke's untiring zeal and perseverance.

He married, in 1813, Elizabeth, daughter of the late Alexander Brodie, Esq., of Arn-hall, but had no issue. His Grace died at London in June 1836,* and with him the dukedom of Gordon and earldom of Norwich became extinct. The title of Marquis of Huntly, and some of the inferior dignities, devolved to his Grace's "heir-male whatsoever," the Earl of Aboyne. The estates passed by virtue of an entail to his nephew, the Duke of Richmond.

* As a tribute to the memory of the Duke of Gordon, we beg to append the following letter of condolence to the Duchess from the Governors of the London Scottish Hospital, whose opportunities of knowing his Grace's exertions in the cause of charity, give peculiar weight to their sentiments:

Unto her Grace Elizabeth Duchess of Gordon, Marchioness of Huntly, Countess of Huntly, Enzie, and Norwich, Viscountess of Inverness, &c. &c. &c. &c.

MADAM,

WE, the Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, and Governors of the Scottish Hospital of the foundation of King Charles the Second, reincorporated by King George the Third, in General Court assembled, beg leave thus to offer our heartfelt condolence upon the severe bereavement with which God, in his Providence, has seen meet to make trial of your "faith and patience."

Be assured, Madam, that it is not in the observance of a mere formality, but because of that affectionate regard which we must ever entertain for the memory of our late noble President, that we intrude thus early upon that grief in which we do sincerely participate.

When, at the command of our present most gracious King and Patron, the Duke of Gordon entered upon the Presidency of this Institution, we congratulated ourselves on the acquisition of a nobleman

resolved to make a still bolder attempt on his friend's boasted discrimination. Quitting the house, he studiously crossed the path of the gentleman, and again made his obeisance. "Well, old boy," said the latter, with his wonted good humour, "how did you fare at the hall?" "Very so so, indeed," replied Huntly; "nothing but cold beef, sour bread, and stale beer." "You must truly be a saucy scoundrel!" exclaimed the gentleman, nettled by the arrogant reply. "Not exactly that," continued Huntly, "but I have never been accustomed to such low fare." Irritated beyond endurance by the provokingly cool impudence of the supposed mendicant, the gentleman threatened to have him *caged*, and actually called some of the domestics to lay hands upon him, when, like the *Gudeman o' Ballangiech*, (in one of his nocturnal adventures,) he doffed his

'Duddie clouts—his meally bags an' a','

and stood forward in his own proper person, to the utter amazement of the bystanders, and the conviction of his defeated friend, whose wrath was quickly changed to merriment.

No. LXXIX.

SIR JAMES MONTGOMERY OF STANHOPE,

AND

DAVID STUART MONCRIEF, ESQ. OF MOREDUN,

HIS MAJESTY'S BARONS OF EXCHEQUER.

LORD CHIEF BARON MONTGOMERY, who is represented by the figure on the left, was the second and youngest son of William Montgomery, Esq. of Macbiehill,* Tweeddale, and was born in 1721.

Sir James, being educated for the law, became a member of the faculty of advocates soon after he had attained his majority. His talents were by no means of the highest order; yet, by judicious mental cultivation—by throwing aside all ingenious subtleties, and boldly grasping at the solid practical view of every question, he in time acquired the character of a sound lawyer.

In 1748, when the Scottish heritable jurisdictions were finally abolished, Sir

* This gentleman was a devoted agriculturist at a period when that useful branch of knowledge was too little attended to in this country. He had the merit of introducing an early species of pease and of oats, which were named after his estate of Macbiehill; but the latter has for these last forty years been more generally known as the "red-oat." So early as 1745, he cultivated potatoes, to the extent of several acres annually; but the land so cultivated was uniformly sown down with beer and artificial grasses. He sold his potatoes by the Tweeddale oat-firiot streaked, at sixteen shillings per boll, an amazingly high sum at that period.





James was one of the first sheriffs appointed by the Crown. He obtained the sheriffdom of Tweeddale, his native county; and it may be noticed that he was the last survivor of all those appointed at the same period. His conduct as a judge in this situation—the more irksome from its being the first of a new order of things—proved so highly satisfactory, that in 1764, he was promoted to the office of Solicitor-General for Scotland, and elected to represent his native county in the British Parliament. A few years after, he was still farther honoured by the appointment of Lord Advocate; and in 1777, on the death of Lord Chief Baron Ord, he was appointed Lord Chief Baron of his Majesty's Court of Exchequer.* This situation he held until 1801, when he found it necessary to retire from public business. The title of Baronet was then conferred upon him, (July 16, 1801,) as a mark of royal esteem for his long and faithful services.

Sir James, like his father, had early formed a just estimate of the importance of agriculture as a study; and, even amid the laborious duties of his official appointments, was enthusiastic in its pursuits. On his farm of Wester-Deans, in the parish of Newlands, he had turnips in drills, dressed by a regular process of horse-hoeing, so early as 1757; and he was among the first, if not the very first, in Scotland who introduced the light horse-plough, instead of the old cumbrous machine, which, on the most favourable soil, required four horses and a driver to manage them.

For the purpose of enlarging his practical knowledge, Sir James travelled over the most fertile counties of England, and embraced every opportunity which could possibly tend to aid him in promoting his patriotic design of improving the agriculture of his native country. The means of reclaiming waste lands in particular occupied a large share of his attention. His first purchase was a portion of land, remarkable for its unimproveable appearance, lying upon the upper extremities of the parishes of Newlands and Eddleston. This small estate, selected apparently for the purpose of demonstrating the practicability of a favourite theory, obtained the designation of the "*Whim*," a name which it has since retained. He also rented, under a long lease, a considerable range of contiguous ground from Lord Portmore. Upon these rude lands, which consisted chiefly of a deep moss soil, Sir James set to work, and speedily proved what could be accomplished by capital, ingenuity, and industry. In a few years the "*Whim*" became one of the most fertile spots in that part of the country.

His next purchase was the extensive estate of Stanhope,† lying in the parishes of Stobbo, Drummellier, and Tweedsmuir, and consisting principally of mountainous sheep walks. Here, too, he effected great improvements, by

* He was the first Scotsman who held this office since the establishment of the Court in 1707.

† These lands belonged to Sir Alexander Murray of Stanhope, Baronet—the husband of that Lady Murray whose beautiful memoirs of her father and mother were, for the first time, printed under the superintendence of Thomas Thomson, Esquire, from the original MS. in 1822, 8vo. Her husband ruined himself by his wild speculations, and his paternal estate passed to other hands.

erecting enclosures, where serviceable—planting numerous belts of young trees—and building comfortable tenements, and other premises, for his tenantry, to whom he afforded every inducement to lay out capital, by granting long leases, and otherwise securing to them the prospect of reaping the reward of their industry. To such management as this the extraordinary agricultural advancement of Scotland, during the last half-century, is mainly owing—an advancement which the present tenant-at-will system, (extensively prevalent in certain districts of the country,) threatens seriously to impede, if not thoroughly to counteract. Sir James also possessed the estate of Killeen in Stirlingshire, which he obtained by marriage.

On attaining the dignity of Chief Baron, Sir James found himself in possession of more leisure than he could previously command; but this relaxation from official duties only tended to increase his labours in the cause of public improvement. He was one of the most useful members of the Board of Trustees for the encouragement of arts, manufactures and commerce in Scotland; and it may be observed with truth that a great portion of the business of the Board latterly devolved upon him. His extreme kindness of disposition, readiness of access, and the universal estimation in which he was held, led him into a multiplicity of gratuitous, but not the less salutary or important labour. In the arrangement of private affairs among his neighbours, and in becoming the honoured arbiter in matters of dispute, he was so frequently engaged as materially to interfere with his own convenience; but whether to persons of his own rank, or to the poor, his opinions were equally and always open.

Sir James died in April 1803. He married Margaret, daughter and heiress of Robert Scott of Killeen, county Stirling, who survived him, and lived till the 17th of February 1806. His eldest son, Colonel William Montgomery, died a few years before him. His second son, Sir James, inherited the title and estates, and was some time Lord Advocate and Member for the county of Tweeddale. His third son, Archibald, went to the East Indies; and his fourth son, Robert, was an English barrister. His eldest daughter was married to Robert Nutter, Esquire, of Kailzie—the youngest, to Major Hart of the East India Service. The second daughter remained unmarried.

“Sir James,” says a biographical notice written immediately after his death, “was in stature a little taller than the middle size, of a remarkably slender make; his air, though not undignified, had more in it of winning grace than of overawing command. His appearance in his old age was particularly interesting; his complexion clear and cloudless; his manner serene and cheerful. Two pictures of him are preserved, for which he sat when above eighty years old; one at Stobbs House, the other at Kailzie.” Sir James at one time lived in the third flat of the Bishop’s land, formerly occupied by Lord President Dundas. He subsequently removed to Queensberry House, situated near the foot of the Canongate, the use of which he gratuitously obtained from Duke William.

MR MONCRIEF of Moredun, the venerable looking old gentleman on the right, entered as a member of the faculty of advocates at an early age, but he never made a distinguished figure as a lawyer. His temper was naturally distant and reserved; and, far from seeking those intimacies which usually contribute to bring many a person of inferior ability into practice, he rather shunned than courted society.

He was very early promoted to the office of King's Remembrancer in the Exchequer Court, the duties of which he discharged for many years with fidelity and attention. He was then preferred to the more elevated station of a Baron of the Exchequer, and in this situation fully maintained the character which he had previously acquired for regularity and despatch of business.

Baron Moncrief continued all his life a bachelor; and, although by no means parsimonious, amassed a considerable fortune. He took much pleasure in cultivating the garden at Moredun,* which, with great labour and expense, he brought to the highest state of perfection. He was for many years most attentive in presenting his Grace the Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly with such rarities as his garden afforded. Prior to his removal to Moredun, Mr Moncrief occupied that self-contained house in the Horse Wynd, next door to the shop of Mr Paton, carver and gilder.

Sir Thomas Moncrief, Baronet, of that ilk, was the Baron's nephew, and nearest heir. Mr Kay, in his M.S. notes, mentions that the uncle, being anxious to engage his nephew in a matrimonial alliance of his own choosing, succeeded in completing a match between Sir Thomas and Lady Elizabeth Ramsay, sister of the Earl of Dalhousie. On the celebration of the marriage the Baron was very liberal, and presented all the domestics of Sir Thomas with handsome presents, in honour of the auspicious occasion: but, as

"The best laid schemes of men and mice
Gang aft a-gae,"

so in this case the marriage did not realize that domestic felicity which the good-hearted bachelor had so fondly anticipated.

It is possible that neither party had consulted their own feelings in the matter; but, be that as it may, the Baron conceived that the lady had been indifferently treated by his nephew, and he did not hesitate to declare so. At his death—as a substantial proof of his esteem for the one, and his disapprobation of the conduct of the other—he left the lady his estate of Moredun, and all the other property of which he could deprive his heir-at-law.

* Moredun is in the parish of Libberton, and about three miles from Edinburgh. It is now the property of David Anderson, Esq. of the firm of Sir William Forbes and Company, bankers in Edinburgh. The garden, so much the favourite of the Baron, is still cultivated with peculiar care, and does great credit to its present proprietor.

No. LXXX.

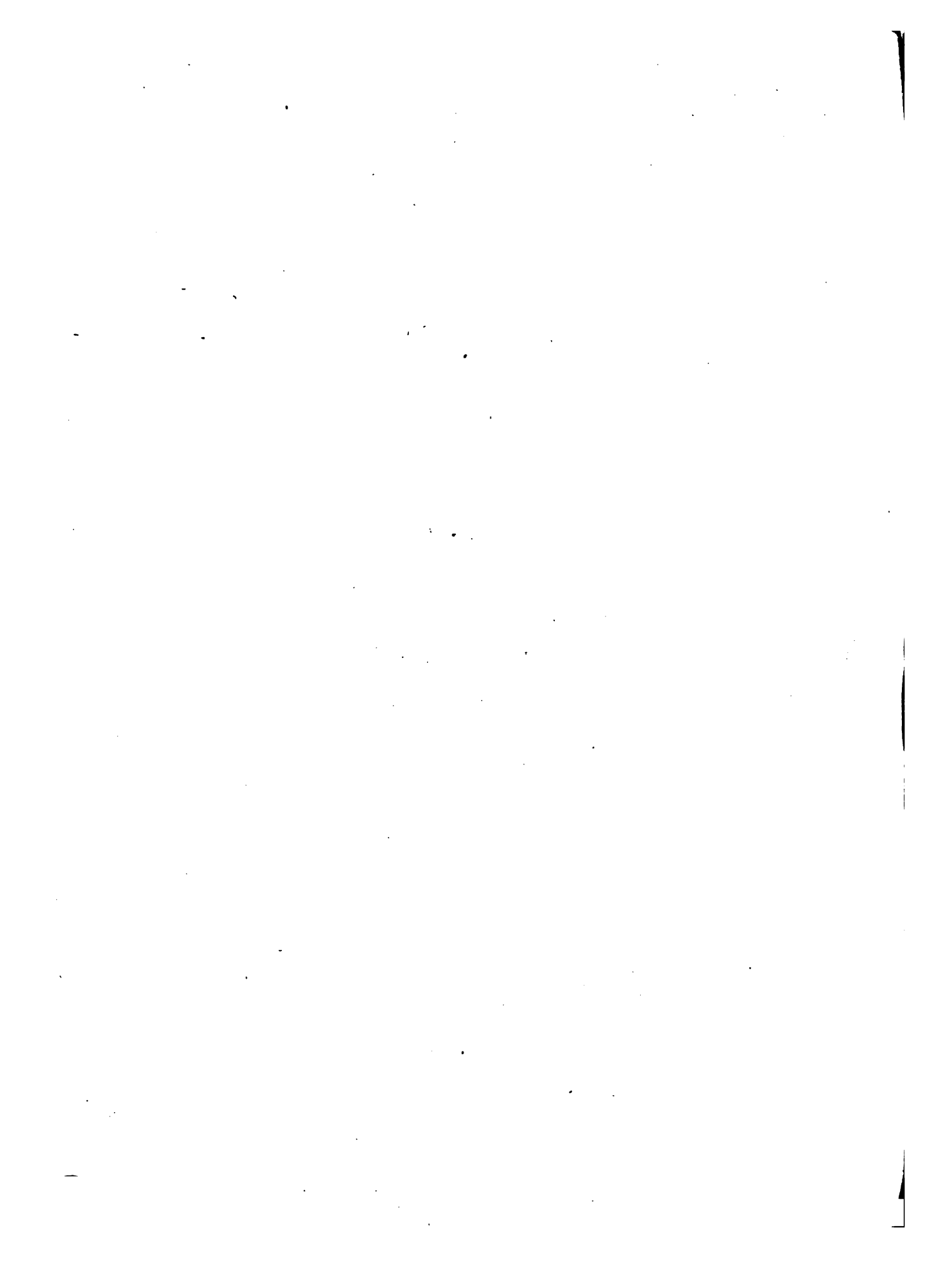
REV. GREVILLE EWING.

As the subject of this sketch is still alive, and engaged in public service, propriety forbids our entering into the minuter details of his personal history. He is a native of Edinburgh, where he was born in 1767. Being originally designed for a secular profession, he was, at the usual age, bound apprentice to an engraver. A strong desire, however, to be engaged in the work of the ministry, induced him, at the close of his apprenticeship, to relinquish his intended profession and devote himself to study. He accordingly entered the University of Edinburgh, where he passed through the usual curriculum of preparatory discipline; and, in the year 1792, he was licensed to preach, in connexion with the National Church, by the Presbytery of Hamilton. A few months after this, he was ordained, as colleague with Dr Jones, to the office of minister of Lady Glenorchy's Chapel, Edinburgh.

A deep interest in the cause of missions seems, at an early period of Mr Ewing's ministry, to have occupied his mind. At that time such enterprises were, to a great degree, novelties in this country; and even, by many who wished them well, great doubts were entertained of their ultimate success. By his exertions and writings, he contributed much to excite a strong feeling in regard to them in Edinburgh; nor did he content himself with this, but, fired with a spirit of true disinterested zeal, he determined to devote himself to the work of preaching the gospel to the heathen. For this purpose he united with a party of friends, like-minded with himself, who had formed a plan of going out to India, and settling themselves there as teachers of Christianity to the native population. The individuals principally engaged in this undertaking, besides Mr Ewing, were, the Rev. David Bogue, D. D., of Gosport; the Rev. William Innes, then one of the ministers of Stirling, now of Edinburgh; and Robert Haldane, Esq. of Airthrey, near Stirling,—by the latter of whom the expenses of the mission were to be defrayed. With the exception of Dr Bogue, all these gentlemen still survive. The peremptory refusal of the East India Company, after repeated applications and memorials on the subject, to permit their going out, caused the ultimate abandonment of this scheme. Mr Ewing, however, and his associates, feeling themselves pledged to the missionary cause, and seeing no opening for going abroad, began to exert themselves for the promotion of religion at home. A periodical, under the title of *The Missionary Magazine*, was started in Edinburgh, of which Mr Ewing undertook the editorship; the duties of which office he discharged in the most efficient manner for the first three years of its existence.* Exertions of a missionary kind were also made in different parts of Scotland, where a necessity for such appeared.

* This periodical has continued till the present day, under the successive titles of "The Missionary Magazine," "The Christian Herald," and "The Scottish Congregational Magazine." It has, for nearly the last forty years, been the recognised organ of the Congregational churches of Scotland.





Out of these efforts ultimately arose the secession of Messrs Ewing and Innes from the National Church; for, feeling themselves hampered in their efforts among their countrymen by the restrictions which an Establishment necessarily imposes, they were led—from this, as well as from other considerations of a conscientious kind—to resign their respective charges, and occupy themselves in preaching the gospel without being connected with any religious denomination whatever. They very soon, however, adopted the principles of Independency, or Congregationalism; after which Mr Ewing removed to Glasgow, where he still remains as the pastor of a large and influential Congregational church.

In connexion with his pastoral duties, Mr Ewing has, for many years, sustained the office of Divinity Professor to the denomination with which he is connected. In this office he is associated with Dr Wardlaw, the well-known author of *Lectures on the Socinian Controversy*, and other valuable theological works. The services of both these distinguished men are perfectly gratuitous, and are rendered for six months in the year.

Mr Ewing, though at present a widower, has been three times married. His first wife was the sister of his friend, Mr Innes; but neither she, nor his second wife, whose maiden name was Jamieson, were long spared after their marriage. His last wife, who was a daughter of the late Sir John Maxwell of Pollock, Bart., died a few years ago, in consequence of a melancholy accident experienced by the overturning of their carriage, while she, with her husband and a party of friends, were visiting the scenery on the banks of the Clyde, near Lanark. A singularly interesting memoir has been given to the public by her husband. He has one child—a daughter—by his second marriage, who is now the wife of the Rev. Dr Matheson of Durham.

Mr Ewing has appeared frequently before the public as an author. His principal works are, *Essays to the Jews*, Lond. 1809—*An Essay on Baptism*, 2d edit. Glasg. 1824—*A Greek Grammar, and Greek and English Lexicon*, published first in 1801; again in 1812; and again, in a very enlarged form, in 1827. These, and all his other writings, are marked by extensive and accurate learning, ingenuity of argument, and, where the subject is such as to admit of it, by great vigour and eloquence of composition. They have proved of eminent service to the cause of sound and literate theology.

In private life Mr Ewing is distinguished by that pervading courteousness and cheerfulness which form such important ingredients in the character of the perfect gentleman. In his younger days his countenance is said to have been very handsome; and even now, in his 70th year, it is highly prepossessing. Kay's portrait was taken while he was minister of Lady Glenorchy's Chapel.

No. LXXXI.

THE EARL OF HOPETOUN,

WITH A DISTANT VIEW OF THE HOPETOUN FENCIBLES.

THE immediate ancestor of the Earls of Hopetoun was Henry Hope, a merchant of considerable extent in Edinburgh, who married Jacqueline de Tott, a French lady, by whom he had two sons. The eldest, Thomas, was bred a lawyer; and, by his eminent talents, obtained great practice and amassed a considerable fortune, with which he made extensive landed purchases. He was appointed Lord Advocate by James VI., and created a Baronet in 1628. His grandson Charles was the first Earl of Hopetoun. Henry, the second son, went to Amsterdam, and was the ancestor of that opulent branch of the family long settled there.

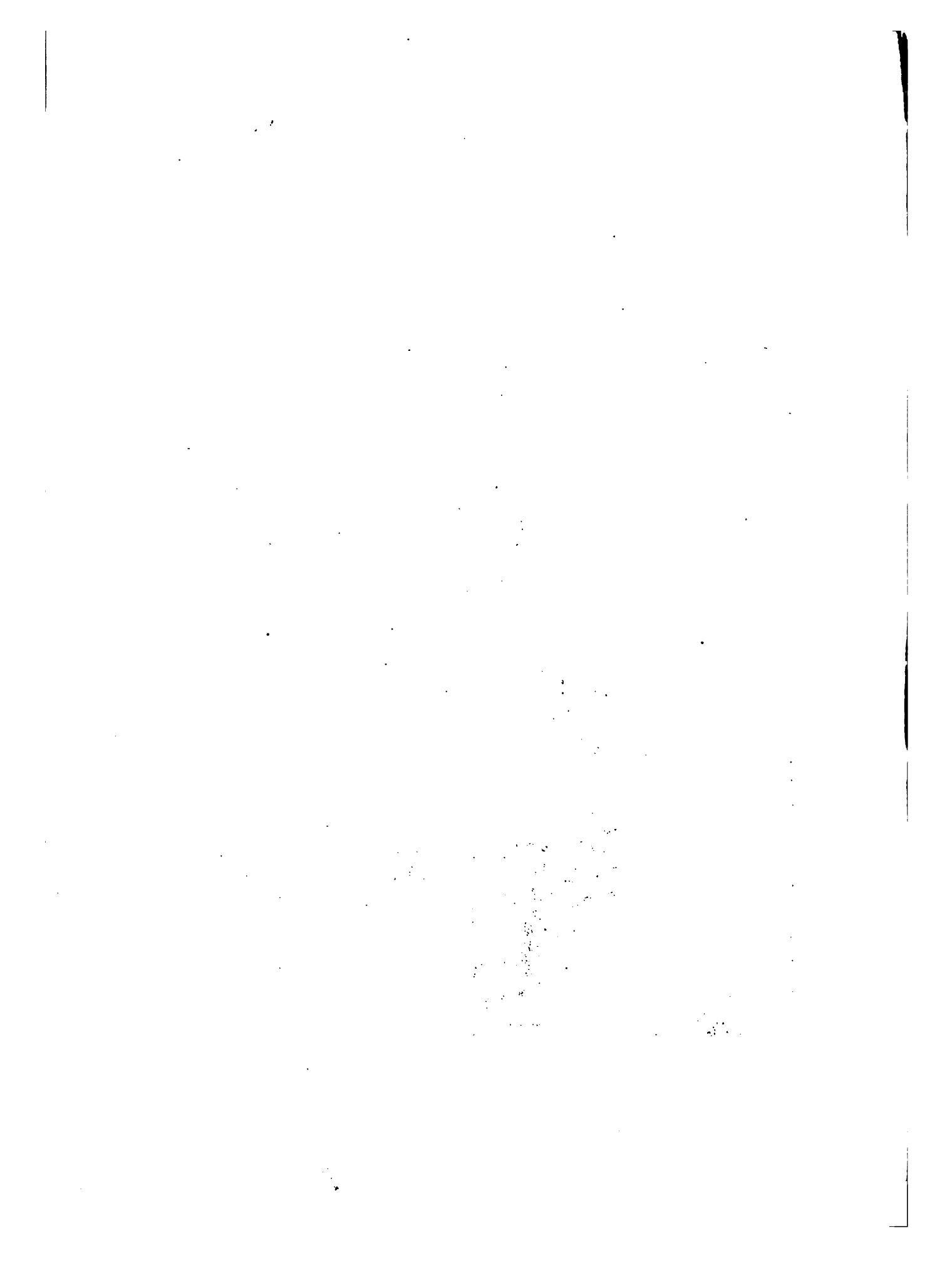
JAMES, third Earl, the subject of this sketch, was born in 1741. He entered the army when very young, and held an ensign's commission in the 3d regiment of foot guards. He was with the troops in Germany; and, when only eighteen years of age, was engaged at the memorable battle of Minden, in 1759, where the British infantry signally distinguished themselves. He continued in the same regiment till 1764, when he retired from the army, in consequence of the ill health of his elder brother, Lord Hope, with whom he travelled some time on the Continent, but without producing any beneficial change in the state of his health, and who died in 1766. On the death of his father, in 1781, he succeeded to the earldom, and was chosen one of the sixteen representative Peers of Scotland at the general election in 1784. The Earl took an active part in all political questions, and continued to sit in the House of Lords during a great many succeeding years.

On the death of his grand-uncle, the third Marquis of Annandale, in 1792, Lord Hopetoun succeeded to the large estates of that nobleman, on which occasion he added the surname of Johnstone to his own. On the breaking out of the French war in 1793, when seven regiments of fencibles were directed by his Majesty to be raised in Scotland, the Earl, who was firmly and sincerely attached to the British Constitution, stood forward in defence of his country, and embodied a corps called the Southern or Hopetoun Fencibles, of which he was appointed Colonel. The officers belonging to this regiment were men of the first rank and respectability: Lord Napier was Lieutenant-colonel; the veteran Clarkson, Major; the Earl of Home, Captain of Grenadiers; Mr Baillie of Mellerstain, and Mr M'Lean of Ardgower, Captains, &c. &c. The Earl assiduously attended to his military duties, and soon brought the discipline of the corps to great perfection.

While the regiment was stationed at Dalkeith, several attempts were made, by some of the more desperate members of the British Convention, to seduce



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the soldiers from their allegiance, or at all events to sow the seeds of discontent among them ; but without effect.

At Dumfries, where the corps was quartered in 1794, the following curious circumstance occurred :—“ One of the Hopetoun Fencibles, now quartered in that town,” says a newspaper of the day, “ was discovered to be a *woman*, after having been upwards of eighteen months in the service. The discovery was made by the tailor, when he was trying on the new clothes. It is remarkable that she has concealed her sex so long, considering she always slept with a comrade, and sometimes with two. She went by the name of John Nicolson, but her real name was Jean Clark. Previous to her assuming the character of a soldier, it seems she had accustomed herself to the dress and habits of a man ; having been bred to the business of a weaver at Closeburn, and employed as a man-servant at Ecclefechan.”

The services of the Hopetoun Fencibles were at first limited to Scotland, but were afterwards extended to England. They remained embodied till 1798, when they were disbanded, after the regular militia had been organized.

His lordship afterwards, as Lord Lieutenant of the county of Linlithgow, embodied a yeomanry corps and a regiment of volunteer infantry, both of which were among the first that tendered their services to Government. These he commanded as Colonel, and took a deep interest and a very active part in training them, and rendering them efficient for the public service. During those times of alarm, when the country was threatened by foreign invasion, his influence, his fortune, and his personal exertions were steadily devoted to the public safety ; and so much were his services appreciated by the Executive, that he was created a Baron of the United Kingdom in 1809, by the name, style, and title of Baron Hopetoun of Hopetoun.

The Earl died at Hopetoun-House, on the 29th May 1816, at the advanced age of 75. He married, in 1756, Elizabeth, daughter of the Earl of Northesk, by whom he had six daughters. They all died prior to himself, except Lady Anne, upon whom the Annandale estates devolved, and who married Admiral Sir William Johnstone.*

Inheriting from his ancestors high rank and ample fortune, Lord Hopetoun maintained the dignity and noble bearing of the ancient Scotch baron, with the humility of a Christian, esteeming the religious character of his family to be its highest distinction ; and he was not more eminent for the regularity of his attendance on all the ordinances of religion, than for the sincerity and reverence with which he engaged in them. He was an indulgent landlord, a most munificent benefactor to the poor, and a friend to all who lived within the limits of his extensive domains.

The following lines, written at the period of his death, describe his estimable character in glowing and forcible language :—

“ For worth revered, lo ! full of years,
Does Hopetoun to the tomb descend,

* The present estimable representative for the county of Dumfries is the son of this marriage.

Amid the sorrowing people's tears,
Who mourn their constant, kindest friend.

Oft have I heard, as o'er his land
I wandered in my youthful days,
The farmer bless his fostering hand,
And ploughman's ruder note of praise.

Oft, too, in Humbie's fairy vale—
Romantic vale ! so sweetly wild—
Of Hopetoun have I heard the tale
Of sorrow soothed or want beguiled.

The mausoleum may arise,
Displaying well the sculpter's art ;
But far superior are the sighs
That rise from many a wounded heart.

The historic record shall survive,
And unimpaired its meed bestow ;
The legendary tribute live
When time has laid the structure low.

In early life to warfare trained,
He gained the glory arms can yield ;
When Gallia had her lilies stained
On Minden's memorable field.

Hence wreathed, the titled path he trod—
A path (how few pursue his plan !)
Bright, marked with piety to God
And warm benevolence to man.

The niche he leaves a brother fills,
Whose prowess fame has blazoned wide ;
Long, long o'er Scotia's vales and hills
Shall Niddry's deeds be told with pride !”

Having no male issue, the Earl of Hopetoun was succeeded by his half-brother John, fourth Earl, G. C. B., and General in the Army, who had distinguished himself so much by his gallantry and abilities in the West Indies in 1794 ; in Holland in 1799 ; and at the battles of Corunna, Bayonne, Bourdeaux, and Toulouse. For these services he was created a British Peer in 1814, by the title of Baron Niddry. He died at Paris on the 27th August 1823. A handsome equestrian statue has lately been erected to his memory in St Andrew Square, in front of the Royal Bank, by the citizens of Edinburgh.

Earl John was twice married,— first, in 1798, to Elizabeth, youngest daughter of Charles Hope Vere of Craighall, who died without issue in 1801 ; secondly, in 1803, to Louisa Dorothea, third daughter of Sir John Wedderburn of Ballendean, by whom he had twelve children,* of whom seven sons and

* It will be recollected, that when George IV. visited Scotland in 1822, his Majesty embarked at Port-Edgar, having previously partaken of a repast at Hopetoun-House with the Earl, his family, and a





one daughter still survive. John, the eldest, succeeded to the titles, and married, in 1826, Louisa Bosville, eldest daughter of the late Lord Macdonald, by whom he has issue one son. His lordship's remaining six brothers and one sister are all unmarried. James, the second son, is at present Member of Parliament for the county of Linlithgow. The Countess-Dowager died at Leamington in 1836.

No. LXXXII.

CHARLES HAY, ESQ., ADVOCATE,

TAKEN A SHORT TIME BEFORE HIS ELEVATION TO THE BENCH.

CHARLES HAY, son of James Hay, Esq. of Cocklaw, Writer to the Signet, was born in 1747.* After the usual preparatory course of education, he passed advocate in 1768, having just attained the years of majority; but, unlike most young practitioners, Hay had so thoroughly studied the principles of the law, "that he has been frequently heard to declare he was as good a lawyer at that time as he ever was at any after period." He soon became distinguished by his strong natural abilities, as well as by his extensive knowledge of the profession, which embraced alike the minutest forms of the daily practice of the Court and the highest and most subtle points of jurisprudence. As a pleader he was very effective. His pleadings were never ornamental, but entirely free of "those little arts by which a speaker often tries to turn the attention of his

select company assembled for the occasion. While at breakfast, one of the Earl's sons, a lively boy about twelve years of age, came into the room and sat beside his mother. The King asked the Countess how many children she had? On being answered by her ladyship that she had ten sons and an infant daughter, his Majesty, either struck by the number of male children, or by the beautiful and youthful appearance of the mother, exclaimed, "Good God! is it possible?" After breakfast Lady Alicia, then an infant, was presented to his Majesty, by whom she was affectionately kissed. Thomas and Adrian, the two youngest sons, were next led into the dining-room, and presented by the Earl to his royal guest. The King graciously received the little boys; and raising Adrian's frock, took hold of his leg, saying, "What a stout little fellow!" The child, thinking the King was admiring his frock, held it up with both his hands, and cried, "See, see!" His Majesty was amused with the notion of the child, and said, "Is that a new frock, my little man?" The other sons of Lord Hopetoun were presented to the King in the drawing-room. During his Majesty's short visit at Hopetoun-House, the honour of knighthood was conferred on Captain Adam Ferguson, and Mr Henry Raeburn, the celebrated painter. Notwithstanding the unfavourable state of the weather, the lawns around the princely mansion presented a scene of the most animating description. Great preparations had been made for the reception of his Majesty, and an immense concourse of all ranks, including a body of his lordship's tenantry on horseback, were assembled to greet their sovereign. The band of Royal Archers, who acted as the King's body-guard, were in attendance, under the command of the Earl of Elgin. The Earl of Hopetoun was the commander-general of this ancient body, and acted as such on the day of his Majesty's arrival at Holyrood-House. As a memorial of that event, they entreated the Earl to sit for his picture in the dress which he wore on the occasion. The painting was executed by Mr John Watson, and has been hung up in the Archers' Hall.

* He is said to have been descended from the Hays of Rannes, an ancient branch of the family of Hay.

auditors on himself;" at the same time they were acute, argumentative, and to the purpose.

Mr Hay was, during the whole course of his life, a staunch Whig of the old school. In 1806, on the death of David Smythe, Lord Methven, he was promoted by the Fox administration to the bench, when he assumed the title of Lord Newton. This appointment was the only one which took place in the Court of Session during what was termed the reign of "the Talents,"—a circumstance on which it is said he always professed to set a high value.

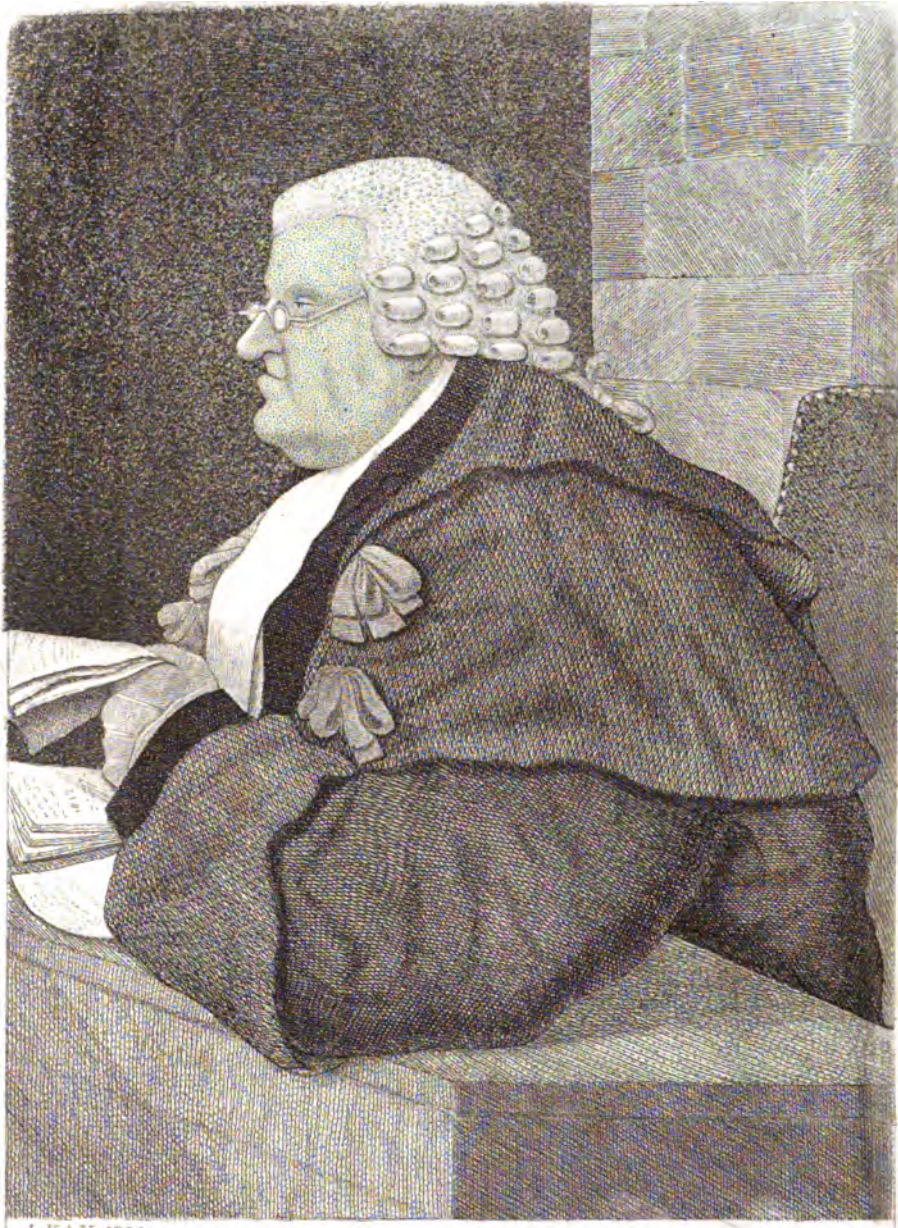
Whilst at the bar, the opinions of his lordship were probably never surpassed for their acuteness, discrimination, and solidity; and as a judge, he now showed that all this was the result of such a rapid and easy application of the principles of law, as appeared more like the effect of intuition than of study and laborious exertion.

Perhaps in none of his predecessors or cotemporaries were so happily blended those masculine energies of mind, so requisite to constitute the profound lawyer, with that good nature and unassuming simplicity so endearing in private life. "Those who saw him only on the bench were naturally led to think that his whole time and thoughts had for all his life been devoted to the laborious study of the law. Those, on the other hand, who knew him in the circle of his friends, when form and austerity were laid aside, could not easily conceive that he had not passed his life in the intercourse of society." He possessed an extraordinary fund of good-humour, amounting almost to playfulness, and entirely devoid of vanity or affectation. There was, perhaps, a strong dash of eccentricity in his character; but his peculiarities appeared in the company of so many estimable qualities, that they only tended to render him more interesting to his friends. His lordship was of a manly and firm mind, having almost no fear of personal danger. He possessed great bodily strength and activity till the latter years of his life, when he became excessively corpulent.

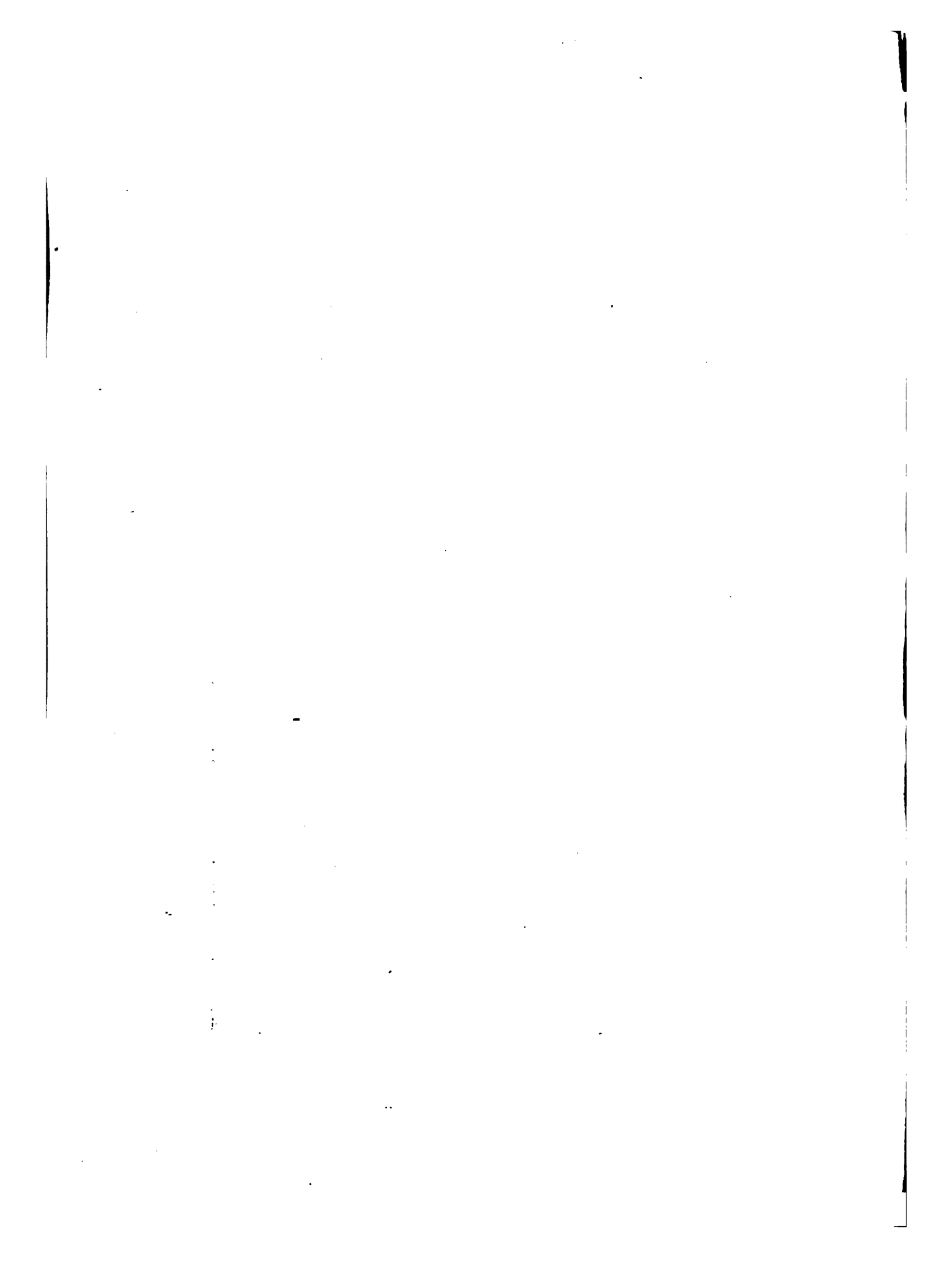
No. LXXXIII.

LORD NEWTON ON THE BENCH.

LORD NEWTON'S extraordinary judicial talents and social eccentricities are the subjects of numerous anecdotes. On the bench he frequently indulged in a degree of lethargy not altogether in keeping with the dignity of the long-robe, and which, to individuals unacquainted with his habits, might well seem to interfere with the proper discharge of his duties. On one occasion, while a very zealous but inexperienced counsel was pleading before him, his lordship had been dozing, as usual, for some time—till at last the young man, supposing him asleep, and confident of a favourable judgment in his case, stopped short



J. KAY. 1914.



in his pleading, and addressing the other lords on the bench, said—"My lords, it is unnecessary that I should go on, as Lord Newton is fast asleep." "Ay, ay," cried Newton, whose faculties were not in the least affected by the leaden god, "you will have proof of that by and by," when, to the astonishment of the young advocate, after a most luminous review of the case, he gave a very decided and elaborate judgment against him.

Lord Newton participated deeply in the bacchanalian propensities so prevalent among lawyers of every degree, during the last and beginning of the present century. He has been described as one of the "profoundest drinkers" of his day. A friend informs us that, when dining alone, his lordship was very abstemious; but, when in the company of his friends, he has frequently been known to put three "lang-craigs"* under his belt, with scarcely the appearance of being affected by it. On one of these occasions, he dictated to his clerk a law-paper of sixty pages, which has been considered one of the ablest his lordship had ever been known to produce. The manuscript was sent to press without being read, and the proof sheets were corrected at the bar of the Inner House in the morning.

It has been stated that Lord Newton often spent the night in all manner of convivial indulgences—drove home about seven o'clock in the morning—slept two hours, and mounting the bench at the usual time, showed himself perfectly well qualified to perform his duty. Simond, the French traveller, relates that "he was quite surprised, on stepping one morning into the Parliament House, to find in the dignified capacity, and exhibiting all the dignified bearing of a judge, the very gentleman with whom he had just spent a night of debauch, and parted only an hour before, when both were excessively intoxicated." His lordship was also exceedingly fond of card-playing; so much so, that it was humorously remarked, "Cards were his profession, and the law only his amusement."

During the sitting of the Session, Lord Newton, when an advocate, constantly attended a club once a week, called "The *Crochallan* Fencibles," which met in Daniel Douglas's Tavern, Anchor Close, and consisted of a considerable number of literary men and wits of the very *first water*. The club assumed the name of *Crochallan* from the burthen of a Gaelic song, which the landlord used sometimes to entertain the members with; and they chose to name their association *Fencibles*, because several military volunteer corps in Edinburgh then bore that appellation. In this club all the members held some pretended military rank or title. On the introduction of new members, it was the custom to treat them at first with much apparent rudeness, as a species of initiation, or trial of their tempers and humours; and when this was done with prudence, Lord Newton was much delighted with the joke, and he was frequently engaged in drilling the recruits in this way. His lordship held the

* Long-necks—a name given by his lordship to bottles of claret, his favourite beverage.

appointments of Major and Muster-Master General to the corps. The late Mr Smellie introduced the poet Burns to this corps in January 1787, when Lord Newton and he were appointed to drill the bard, and they accordingly gave him a most severe castigation. Burns showed his good-humour by retaliating in an extemporaneous effusion,* descriptive of Mr Smellie, who held at that time the honourable office of *hangman* to the corps.

The eccentricities of Lord Newton were frequently a source of merriment amongst his friends. He had an unconquerable antipathy to punning, and in order to excite the uneasiness he invariably exhibited at all attempts of that nature, they studiously practised this novel species of punishment in his company.

His lordship had two estates, (Newton and Faichfield,) and was fond of agricultural improvements; although, like most other lawyers who cultivate their own lands, he did not know much about farming. One day, when shown a field of remarkably large turnips, he observed that, in comparison, those on his own grounds were only like "gouf ba's,"—an expression which his waggish friends frequently afterwards turned to his annoyance, by asking him how his "gouf ba's" were looking.

We have already mentioned that Lord Newton was an uncompromising Whig. From his independent avowal of principles, and occasional vehement declamation against measures which he conceived to be wrong, he was dubbed by his opponents the "Mighty Goth." This, however, was only in the way of good-natured banter: no man, perhaps, passed through life with fewer enemies, even among those who were his political opponents. All bore testimony to his upright conduct as a judge—to his talents as a lawyer—and to his honesty as a man.

Lord Newton died at Powrie, in Forfarshire, on the 19th of October 1811.† His lordship, who is understood not to have relished female society, was never married; and the large fortune which he left was inherited by his only sister, Mrs Hay Mudie, for whom he always entertained the greatest affection.

* This excellent piece of good-natured satire appears in Burns' Works under the title of "A Fragment." The lines will be found inserted in our sketch of Mr Smellie.

† Lord Newton, when an advocate, continued to wear the gown of Lockhart, "Lord Covington," till it was in tatters, and at last had a new one made with a fragment of the neck of the original sewed into it, whereby he could still make it his boast that he wore "Covington's gown." Lord Covington died in 1782, in the eighty-second year of his age. He practised for upwards of half a century at the bar previous to his elevation to the bench in 1775. He and his friend, Ferguson of Pitfour, rendered themselves conspicuous by becoming voluntary counsel for the unfortunate prisoners tried at Carlisle in 1746, for their concern in the Rebellion, and especially by the ingenious means they devised to shake the whole-sale accusations against them.

No. LXXXIV.

THE EARL OF ERROL,

AND

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE LORD HADDO.

THE first of these "Noble Friends," (to the left,) is GEORGE, fourteenth EARL of ERROL. He was born at Slanes Castle*—the principal seat of the family—in Aberdeenshire, in 1767. His father, James Lord Boyd, was the eldest son of Lord Kilmarnock, who suffered, in 1746, on account of the Rebellion. Lord Boyd held a commission in the 21st regiment of foot at the time, and fought against the young Chevalier, whose cause his father had espoused. In 1758, on the death of his grand-aunt, he succeeded to the title as thirteenth Earl of Errol. The hereditary honour of Lord High Constable of Scotland was conferred by King Robert Bruce upon his lordship's ancestor in 1315.

GEORGE, the subject of this sketch, succeeded to the title, while yet at Harrow School, by the death of his father in 1778. He purchased a cornetcy in the 1st dragoons in 1780, being then only thirteen years of age. He afterwards held commissions in various regiments—was Major of the 78th foot in 1793, and latterly Captain of a company in the 1st regiment of foot guards.

At the general election in 1796, his lordship was elected one of the sixteen representatives of the Scottish Peerage. On this occasion, the Earl of Lauderdale entered a protest against the votes of British Peers created since the Union; and also protested against the return of the Earl of Errol. In pursuance of this protest, Lauderdale presented a petition to the House of Lords against Errol, on the ground that, not being paternally descended from the High Constable, he did not hold his title consistently with the original charter. The petition was referred to a committee of privileges, and counsel were heard on both sides. The case was finally determined on the 19th of May 1797. The Lord Chancellor spoke at great length on the subject: He stated that the petition laid its principal stress on the Earl of Errol not being a male descendant, to which the original charter no doubt was limited; but it should be recollected, that it was no uncommon thing formerly for the nobility to surrender their honours to the King, for the purpose of having them renewed, with some additional privileges, or relieved of some restrictions. This had been the case with Gilbert, tenth Earl of Errol. He surrendered his honours to the King in 1660, and had his charter renewed, which, instead of confirming it to

* The old Castle of Slanes, formerly the principal residence of the Earls of Errol, was destroyed as far back as the early part of the reign of James VI. The greater part of the lands belonging to the barony are now in the possession of Colonel John Gordon of Cluny.

male heirs, extended it first to the female line, and then vested in him the power of nomination. Of this power he availed himself, having a short time before his death nominated Sir John Hay of Killour—the immediate ancestor of the present Earl—his successor; and of course, under that character, he held it by an undoubted right. The Lord Chancellor concluded by moving, “That the Earl of Errol is duly elected,” which motion passed unanimously.

The Earl did not long enjoy his seat. He died, after several months' illness, at London, on the 14th June 1798.* His lordship married at Portpatrick, in 1790, Miss Blake, daughter of Joseph Blake of Ardfry, county of Galway in Ireland; but leaving no issue by her, the title devolved on his brother.

The other noble friend represented in the Print, is the Right Honourable LORD HADDO, eldest son of the third Earl of Aberdeen, and brother to Lord Rockville, noticed in an early part of this work. He married, in 1782, Charles, youngest daughter of William Baird, Esq. of Newbyth, Haddingtonshire, and sister of the late gallant Sir David Baird, Bart. and K.B.

Lord Haddo was a young nobleman of considerable public spirit, and much esteemed by the citizens of Edinburgh. He was Grand Master Mason of Scotland in 1783, and the two following years, and presided at the meeting of the Grand Lodge in 1785, when the charter was granted for the institution of the “Lodge of the Roman Eagle,” formerly alluded to in our sketch of Dr Brown. His name is also associated with one of the most important improvements in Edinburgh, he having the same year laid the foundation-stone of the South Bridge. The masonic display on this occasion was very splendid—upwards of eight hundred of the brethren walked in procession. The Grand Master was supported on the right by the Duke of Buccleuch, and on the left by the Earl of Balcarras. In the evening, the Grand Lodge, and a number of the nobility and gentry, were invited by the Lord Provost to an elegant entertainment in Dunn's Assembly-room.

Lord Haddo was cut off in the prime of life, in consequence of a fall from his horse. He died at Formartine, on the 2d October 1791. His lady did not long survive him: she died on the 8th October 1795. Their eldest son, George, succeeded to the earldom on the death of his grandfather in 1801; the second, William, entered the navy—he is presently M.P. for Aberdeenshire; the third, Alexander Gordon, was a lieutenant in the 3d regiment of foot guards. He was aid-de-camp to his uncle, Sir David Baird, at the taking of the Cape of Good Hope, Buenos Ayres, and Copenhagen,—and in the Spanish expedition in 1808. He was sent home with the despatches respecting the battle of Corunna. Lord Haddo left three other sons and one daughter.

* His lordship accompanied the expedition undertaken against Ostend the year previous. He was then labouring under the disease which terminated his existence, and was subject to occasional attacks of delirium. In this state of mind he is said to have disclosed the object of the expedition prematurely.





Agosto 1989

No. LXXXV.

VOLTAIRE, THE FRENCH PHILOSOPHER,

AND

MR WATSON, AN EDINBURGH MESSENGER.

THE remarkable similarity of physiognomy existing between the Philosopher of Ferney and the humble Edinburgh Messenger, was the cause of their heads being etched in the present form. About the period of the execution of this Print, the Scottish capital was profuse in the display of odd characters; and living portraits* of some of the greatest men of the age were to be found walking the streets of the city. In Miles M'Phail, the caddy, Lord North, the British Prime Minister, might daily be seen shouldering a load of beef or mutton; while, in the still more exact personification of old Watson the Messenger, the noted Philosopher of France became a petty process-server and a beagle of the law.

The likeness of the famous VOLTAIRE was copied by Kay from a painting on the lid of a snuff-box belonging to John Davidson, Esq., Writer to the Signet, † with which the head of Mr Watson was placed in contrast, that the similarity, as well as any little difference of feature, might be more conspicuous.

* A very striking instance of the similar structure of faces is recorded in the Gallic Reports, in the case of Martin Guerre and Arnauld de Filk. The latter, taking advantage of the absence of the former, and having made himself master of the most minute circumstances of his life, through this surprising resemblance, so imposed himself, not only on the relations of Martin Guerre, but even upon his wife, that he was not suspected for several years; and when at length, from some untoward circumstances, he fell under suspicion of being an impostor, he cheerfully submitted to a regular prosecution, in which he behaved with such address, that, of near 150 witnesses examined on the affair, between thirty and forty deposed that he was the true Martin Guerre, among whom were Martin's four sisters and two of their husbands; and of the remainder of the witnesses, sixty and upwards declared the resemblance between the persons so strong, that it was simply impossible to affirm with certainty whether the accused was the true Martin or not. In short, Arnauld de Filk for a long time puzzled the Parliament of Toulouse, even after the true Martin Guerre was returned, and they appeared together face to face.

At the present day, almost a counterpart of Napoleon will be found in the person of a celebrated foreign musician, presently resident in Edinburgh. He is distinguished by the same peculiarity in walking, his arms resting carelessly behind his back; is of the same height, and the same cast of features.

A few years ago, a young gentleman was taken up, in London, on about fourteen different charges of swindling, and was brought to trial on what we would here term separate indictments. On one of these he was convicted, but on the rest was acquitted; having, although positively sworn to, proved satisfactorily alibis in each of them. It turned out that the delinquencies had been perpetrated by an individual his complete counterpart. Of course he received a free pardon in the instance where he had been convicted, and where he had been unable to prove an alibi.

† Mr Davidson obtained possession of the box while on a visit to Paris, where the likeness was considered remarkably faithful.

Why two heads, apparently so nearly proportioned, should have been distinguished, in the one case, by so *much* genius, and, in the other, by so *little*, we leave the Phrenologists to determine. We need not tire our readers by any of our lucubrations on the life and character of the "Little Philosopher," whose writings and principles are so much interwoven with the late history of France.

MR WATSON, who is represented by the figure on the right, was a person little known beyond the sphere of his calling. He continued a bachelor, but is said to have had a particular affection for children. He formerly resided in the Covenant Close, but latterly removed to the Anchor Close, where he died not many years ago, leaving his property, which was considerable, to a nephew.

No. LXXXVI.

MR WILLIAM SMELLIE, PRINTER, F.R.S. & F.A.S.,

AND

MR ANDREW BELL, ENGRAVER.

THE figure on the right represents the late MR WILLIAM SMELLIE, Printer, the author of the *Philosophy of Natural History*, and translator of the works of Buffon. It is by no means one of Kay's happiest efforts, as, instead of the vacant expression here delineated, the prevailing cast of Mr Smellie's features was grave and thoughtful; but this defect may have arisen in consequence of the figure being originally that of a Mr Gavin, and afterwards changed to Mr Smellie. He was born in the Pleasance of Edinburgh, in 1740. Both his father and grandfather were architects, and were possessed of considerable property at St Leonards, in the neighbourhood of Edinburgh. He married, in March 1763, Miss Jane Robertson, daughter of an eminent army-agent in London. This lady was full cousin to the present Mrs Oswald of Dunnikier, their mothers having been sisters. Mr Smellie's only brother, named John, married Miss Agnes Ferrier, sister of the late James Ferrier, Esq., Principal Clerk of Session.

Independently of his professional eminence—being the most learned printer of his day—Mr Smellie's talents procured him the constant society and friendship of nearly all the eminent literary characters who flourished towards the latter end of the last century. For his great convivial qualities and brilliant wit we have the testimony of many kindred spirits; among whom may be mentioned the poet Burns, who, in a letter to a venerable old gentleman still in life, Mr Peter Hill, late bookseller, thus describes him:—"There in my eye is our friend Smellie, a man positively of the first abilities and greatest

Mr. Smellie's portrait
 by Andrew Bell
 1792

strength of mind, as well as one of the best hearts and keenest wits that I have ever met with," &c.—*Burns' Works*, Letter 56.

Mr Smellie was one of the principal writers in the *Edinburgh Magazine and Review*—a work which commenced in 1773, and was conducted for some years with great spirit and much display of talent. It would assuredly have succeeded, had its management been committed entirely to the calm, judicious, and conciliatory control of Mr Smellie. But owing to the harsh irritability of temper, and the severe and almost indiscriminate satire, in which Dr Gilbert Stuart, the principal editor, indulged, several of the reviews which appeared in that periodical gave great offence to many leading characters of the day; the consequence of which was such a diminution in the sale of the work as to render it necessary to discontinue it altogether. This took place in August 1776, after the publication of forty-seven numbers, forming five octavo volumes. Had the work been only conducted upon the principles developed in the prospectus, it would have had few rivals and fewer superiors.

Mr Smellie was likewise editor of the first edition of the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, three volumes, quarto, 1771. The whole plan was arranged, and all the principal articles were written or compiled by him. He also wrote a great number of pamphlets, on various subjects; among which may be particularized his *Address on the Nature, Powers, and Privileges of Juries*, published in 1784. It is an admirable treatise, and ought to be carefully studied by every true friend to the Constitution, especially by such as have occasion to act as jurymen. It may be remarked, that this pamphlet inculcated those doctrines which have been since recognised as English law, in Mr Fox's celebrated Bill on the subject of libels. The late Honourable Thomas Erskine, (afterwards Lord Chancellor,) in his defence of the Dean of St Asaph for a libel, paid Mr Smellie a very high compliment for this defence of the rights of juries.

Such was the high character of Mr Smellie as an author, that when the first volume of his *Philosophy of Natural History* was announced as preparing for the press, the late Mr C. Elliot made him an offer of one thousand guineas for the copyright, and fifty guineas for every subsequent edition, besides the employment of printing it. This was the largest sum ever previously given, at least in Edinburgh, for the literary property of a single quarto volume of similar extent, and evinced both the liberality of the bookseller, and the high estimation in which the fame and talents of the author were held. It was, besides, an odd volume, being the first of the work. It is remarkable, that this bargain was finally concluded before a *single page* of the book was written.

In his translation of Buffon, (9 volumes 8vo.,) Mr Smellie introduced many original notes, observations, and illustrations of great importance, pointing out particular passages and opinions in which he differed from his author, and furnishing many new facts and reasonings. The Count de Buffon, as appears from his own letters to Mr Smellie on the occasion, was highly pleased with this translation, of which a considerable number of editions was published.

In these nine volumes he comprehended all that was contained in the original, which consisted of sixteen large quarto volumes. The method he pursued of rendering it into the English language was somewhat unusual. Instead of translating literally, paragraph by paragraph, and sentence by sentence, he deliberately read over six or eight pages at a time, making himself perfectly master of their substance, and then wrote down the whole in English, in his own words and arrangement. The greater part of this task he performed in a small correcting-room connected with his printing-office, amidst the continual interruption arising from the introduction of proof-sheets of other works for his professional revisal, and the almost perpetual calls of customers, authors, and idle acquaintances. Yet such was his self-possession, that, as usual with almost every thing he wrote, he gave it out to his compositors page by page, as fast as it was written, and hardly ever found it necessary to alter a single word, after the types were set up from his first uncorrected manuscript.

In August 1781, Mr Smellie drew up the first regular plan for procuring a statistical account of the parishes of Scotland. This plan was printed and distributed by order of the Society of Antiquaries; and, although no other result followed at the time than a statistical report, by the Earl of Buchan, of the parish of Uphall, in which his lordship then resided, along with three or four others, which were printed in the Society's Transactions, yet it is proper to mention the circumstance, as it was the precursor of the scheme which the late Sir John Sinclair afterwards brought to maturity.

On the death of Dr Ramsay in 1775, Mr Smellie became a candidate for the Chair of Natural History in the University of Edinburgh. The patronage being in the gift of the Crown, his friends made strong and ardent applications in his favour to Lord Suffolk; but, from the superior political influence of his opponent, Dr Walker, these exertions were unsuccessful.

Mr Smellie was one of the original founders of the Society of Antiquaries. In 1781 he was appointed Superintendent of its Museum of Natural History; and in 1793 he was elected Secretary. It is not intended here to give a history of that Society; yet, as a considerable portion of the strange and inexplicable opposition which that association encountered, in their application for a royal charter, from two highly respectable public bodies, originated out of circumstances intimately connected with Mr Smellie's history, a short account of these transactions may be given. Mr Smellie having announced his intention of giving a course of lectures, at the request of the Society, on the Philosophy of Natural History, to be delivered in their hall, this proposal gave great dissatisfaction to Dr Walker, the recently elected Professor of Natural History, already mentioned; although every attempt was made by the Earl of Buchan to satisfy him that Mr Smellie's lectures would not interfere with those of the University, and although Dr Walker had not even given a single lecture for nearly seven years after his appointment. Nothing, however, would satisfy him; and his answer to the Earl's pacific endeavours was—"In the professorship I am soon to undertake I have foreseen many difficulties, which I yet hope to surmount;

but the lectures of Mr Smellie, under the auspices of the Antiquarian Society, is a new discouragement which I did not expect." This discontent was communicated to the *Senatus Academicus*, and, through that respectable body, an unexpected opposition arose when the Society of Antiquaries transmitted a petition to the King praying for a charter. The Curators of the Advocates' Library likewise objected to the grant, under the idea that the institution of the Society might prove injurious to their magnificent Library, by intercepting ancient manuscripts and monuments illustrative of Scottish history and antiquities, which would be more useful if collected into one repository. All this opposition, however, proved of no avail. Much to the honour of the late Lord Melville—who was, at that time, Lord Advocate for Scotland—his lordship signified, by a note to the Secretary of the Society, that he saw no reason for refusing the prayer of the petition, and at the same time transmitted the draft of such a charter as he considered was proper to be granted. In consequence, therefore, of his lordship's favourable interposition, the royal warrant, in which his Majesty was pleased voluntarily to declare himself patron of the Society, passed the Privy Seal next day. As soon as it was received in Edinburgh, a charter was extended under the Great Seal. The gentlemen of this public office, sensible of the many advantages likely to accrue from the establishment of the Society, generously refused to accept their accustomed fees; and the royal charter, which is dated the 29th March, was finally ratified, by passing through all the customary forms, on the 5th and 6th of May 1783.

During the time Mr Smellie attended the class of Botany in the University, the Professor, Dr Hope, having met with an accident which confined him to the house for a long time, requested Mr Smellie, of whose knowledge and abilities he was highly sensible, to carry on his lectures during his necessary absence. This was done by Mr Smellie for a considerable time—(his widow has stated, during six weeks)—to the entire satisfaction of his fellow-students.

Mr Smellie was about the middle size, and had been, in his youth, well-looking and active; but, when rather past the middle of life, he acquired a sort of lounging gait, and had become careless and somewhat slovenly in his dress and appearance. These peculiarities are well described in the following lines, produced by Burns at the meeting of the *Crochallan* club alluded to in our notice of Lord Newton:—

—————"To Crochallan came,
The old cocked hat, the brown surtout the same:
His bristling beard just rising in its might,
('Twas four long nights and days to shaving-night);
His uncombed grisly locks, wild-staring, thatched
A head for thought profound and clear unmatched:
And, though his caustic wit was biting rude,
His heart was warm, benevolent and good."

In grave and philosophical discourse Mr Smellie was clear, candid, and communicative, as well as thoroughly informed. He never withheld his judg-

ments and opinions from a narrow-minded feeling, nor obtruded them unnecessarily, or at unseasonable times, from vanity or affectation. His manners were uncommonly mild, gentle, and inoffensive, insomuch that none, even of his own family, ever remember to have seen him out of temper. In his last and long illness he was never in the smallest degree peevish, fretful, or melancholy. He died on the 24th June, 1795.

MR ANDREW BELL, Engraver, the other figure in the Print, (of whom we have already given some particulars,) was an intimate acquaintance of Mr Smellie, and was frequently engaged, jointly with him, in various literary speculations. He engraved all the plates to illustrate the translation of Buffon.

Mr Bell was the principal proprietor of the *Encyclopædia Britannica*. The second edition of this work began to be published in 1776. At the death of Mr M'Farquhar, the other proprietor, in 1793, the whole became the property of Mr Bell. It is well known that he left a handsome fortune, mostly derived from the profits of this book. By the sale of the third edition, consisting of 10,000 copies, the sum of L.42,000 was realized. To this may be added Mr Bell's professional profits for executing the engravings, &c. Even the warehouseman, James Hunter, and the corrector of the press, John Brown, are reported to have made large sums of money by the sales of the copies for which they had procured subscriptions. After Mr Bell's death, the entire property of the work was purchased from his executors by one of his sons-in-law, Mr Thomson Bonar, who carried on the printing of it at the Grove, Fountainbridge. In 1812, the copyright was bought by Messrs Constable & Co., who published the fourth, fifth, and sixth editions, with the Supplement by Professor Napier. The work still continues to maintain so high a reputation in British literature, that a new and stereotype edition, with modern improvements, and additions to its previously accumulated stores, is now publishing by Messrs Adam and Charles Black.

Mr Bell was in the habit of taking exercise on horseback. The animal he rode was remarkably tall; and Andrew, being of very diminutive stature, had to use a small ladder to climb up in mounting it. The contrast between the size of the horse and his own little person, together with his peculiarly odd appearance, rendered this exhibition the most grotesque that can well be conceived; but such was his magnanimity of mind, that no one enjoyed more, or made greater jest of the absurdity than himself.

Mr Bell left two daughters. One of them was married to Mr Paton, Rope-maker, Leith; and the other to Mr Thomson Bonar, Merchant in Edinburgh.





No. LXXXVII.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE DAVID EARL OF LEVEN
AND MELVILLE.

DAVID, sixth EARL of LEVEN and fifth of MELVILLE, was the only son of Alexander fifth Earl of Leven, by Mary, daughter of Colonel Erskine of Carnock, and was born in 1722. His lordship entered the army in 1744, and held a company in the 16th regiment of foot; but he left the military service on succeeding to the family titles and estates, by the demise of his father, in 1751. For a series of years his lordship seems to have interfered little in public matters. In 1773 he was appointed one of the Lords of Police,—an office which he held till the abolition of that Board in 1782. In the following year he became Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly.

In those days the “pomp and circumstance” of the Commissioner’s office were matters of much greater moment than they are at present. The levees* were then numerously attended by the nobility; and the opening procession to the Assembly, in particular, created feelings of great excitement: the streets were thronged with people, and the windows crowded with all the beauty and fashion of the town, while the retinue of the Commissioner was generally numerous and imposing. The Sabbath processions to church were also very attractive. In addition to the usual attendance of the military on such occasions, bands of music were in requisition, which, to the great annoyance of many a sturdy Presbyterian, struck up the moment the procession issued from the place where his Grace held his levee, and while it proceeded towards the High Church. The Commissioner was always preceded by the heralds, and followed by a long train of noblemen and gentlemen, both lay and clerical, besides ladies in full court dress.†

The Earl continued to act as Commissioner for nearly twenty years, and took much pleasure in the annual display of official greatness. The leader of the Assembly, during the greater part of that time, was the celebrated Principal Robertson, on the *moderate* side; his opponent being his own colleague in the Old Greyfriar’s Church, Dr John Erskine of Carnock, (cousin to the Earl,) who led what was then called the *wild* party.

In 1801, the Earl (then in his 80th year) was succeeded in the Commissioner-ship by Lord Napier; and it may be mentioned, as an instance of the enthu-

* They were held in Fortune’s Tavern, Old Stamp-Office Close; and when Fortune removed to Princes Street, the levees took place in the King’s Arms Tavern, New Assembly Close, where the public dancing assemblies were held,—now the site of the Commercial Bank.

† The old Town Guard, who were always furnished with new uniform for the occasion, were allowed the honour of precedency, by taking the right-hand side of the procession, in preference to the military.

siastic spirit of the ex-representative of Majesty, that he came to Edinburgh in May 1802, to attend the levee of the new Commissioner. On the 4th of June following, being the King's birth-day, he also attended the "grand collation" given on the occasion by the Magistrates in the Parliament House. This was the last public appearance of his lordship. He died at his house, in Edinburgh, five days afterwards, aged 81.

Lord Leven married, in 1747, Wilhelmina, posthumous daughter, and nineteenth child, of William Nisbet of Dirleton. The great degree of domestic felicity with which this union was crowned, is, perhaps, the best proof of the Earl's rectitude of private conduct. Lady Leven was not less distinguished for her amiable qualities of mind than she was for comeliness of person. Her wit was lively and pleasant—her heart affectionate and liberal. She had a habitual and fervent piety, and a regular and constant regard to divine institutions and the offices of devotion. Uninterrupted conjugal affection and felicity, sweetened and heightened by the exercise of parental duties, marked the union of the Earl and Countess. The fiftieth anniversary of their marriage was celebrated at Melville House, 29th January, 1797; and she died there, 10th May 1798, aged 74. Her ladyship had a family of five sons and three daughters.

The town residence of the Earls of Leven, during the early part of last century, was at the head of Skinner's Close. The subject of this sketch resided many years in a house at the north-west corner of Nicolson Square, and latterly occupied No. 2, St Andrew Square.

No. LXXXVIII.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE LORD ADAM GORDON.*

LORD ADAM GORDON, fourth son of Alexander second Duke of Gordon, and grand-uncle to the late Duke, entered the 18th regiment of foot in 1746—from whence he was transferred to the 3d regiment of foot guards in 1755. He accompanied this regiment in the expedition to the coast of France, under General Bligh, in 1758; undertaken, in conjunction with the fleet under Lord Howe, for the purpose of creating a diversion in favour of the allies. The General succeeded in effecting a landing at St Lunaire, on the 4th September, and in destroying a few vessels at St Briac; but his courage soon began to "ooze out at his finger-ends," on learning that the French camp was only a few miles distant, and that some fresh reinforcements had lately been received. On the 10th of the same month he summoned a council of war, when, with only one dissentient voice (Lieutenant-colonel Clerk) a re-embarkation was resolved upon. Lord Howe was immediately made acquainted with this determination; but, for the safety of the fleet, the Admiral found it necessary to go

* A gentleman, who was intimately acquainted with the subject of this sketch, describes the Print of Lord Adam Gordon on horseback as peculiarly striking.

to St Cas Bay. The troops were thus under the disagreeable necessity of marching a short distance along the coast. This they accomplished in double-quick time, without having almost ever seen the face of an enemy. At St Cas, Howe had every thing in readiness, so that not a moment was lost, the troops entering the boats just as they arrived on the beach. Lord Adam Gordon greatly distinguished himself by bringing up the rear of the troops, and resolutely retarding the advance of the enemy. The embarkation took place on the 11th September, thus finishing, almost without bloodshed, the long campaign of seven days!

Lord Adam Gordon next became Colonel of the 66th regiment of foot, and served for several years in America. He returned in 1765, having been entrusted by the heads of the Colonies with a statement of their grievances. Lord Adam had a long conference with the Secretaries of State; but his mission was not productive of any favourable result. In 1775, he was appointed Colonel of the 26th, or Cameronian regiment; and, in 1782, was made Governor of Tinnmouth Castle.

Lord Adam sat in Parliament for many years, having been first returned for the county of Aberdeen in 1754. He afterwards represented the county of Kincardine from 1774 till 1788, when he vacated his seat, and was next year appointed to the Command of the Forces in Scotland. Lord Adam thereupon took up his residence in Holyrood Palace, which he caused to be materially repaired; but displayed very questionable taste in having all the oak carvings painted white!

While Commander-in-Chief, Lord Adam frequently amused himself by reviewing those domestic warriors, the Edinburgh Volunteers, and the other defensive bands, which the emergencies of the country had called into existence. He also had the honour of presenting a set of colours to a battalion of the Scots Brigade. The ceremony took place in George's Square, on the 19th of June 1795. Lord Adam, who was then a very old man, addressed the corps in the following terms:—"General Dundas, and officers of the Scots Brigade,—I have the honour to present these colours to you; and I am very happy in having this opportunity of expressing my wishes that the Brigade may continue, by their good conduct, to merit the approbation of our gracious Sovereign, and to maintain that reputation which all Europe knows that old and respectable corps have most deservedly enjoyed." This oration was received with great applause, and the veterans were visibly affected.

Lord Adam resigned the Command, in 1798, in favour of Sir Ralph Abercrombie, and retired to his seat of "The Burn," in the county of Kincardine, where he died suddenly, on the 13th August 1801, in consequence of inflammation, produced by drinking lemonade while over-heated.

His lordship married at London, in 1776, Jane, daughter of John Drummond, Esq. of Megginch, in the county of Perth, the widow of James second Duke of Atholl, but had no issue.* Her Grace died at Holyrood-House, on the 22d February 1795.

* It was on the Duchess that the song—beginning, "For lack of gold"—was composed.

No. LXXXIX.

RIGHT HONOURABLE LORD ADAM GORDON
 AND
 HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE COUNT D'ARTOIS,
 AFTERWARDS CHARLES X.

THE most memorable occurrence, during LORD ADAM's command in Scotland, was the arrival of his Royal Highness the Count d'Artois, in 1796.

"June 6.—This afternoon, about two o'clock, his Royal Highness Monsieur Comte d'Artois, &c., landed at Leith from on board his Majesty's frigate Jason, Captain C. Stirling. On the frigate's coming to anchor in the Roads, his Royal Highness was saluted with twenty-one guns from Leith Fort, and with the like number on his landing at Leith, where he was received from the boat by Lord Adam Gordon and a part of his suite, and conducted in his lordship's carriage to an apartment in the Palace of Holyrood, fitted up in haste for his reception; and, as he entered the Palace, his Royal Highness was saluted with twenty-one guns from the Castle. The Windsor Forresters and Hopetoun Fencibles were in readiness to line his approach to the Palace; but his Royal Highness choosing to land in a private manner, and with as little ceremony as possible, that was dispensed with. The noblemen in his Royal Highness's suite followed, in carriages provided for the purpose, and were conducted from the outer gate of the Palace, by the Commander-in-Chief, to their apartments."

"Next day his Royal Highness Le Comte d'Artois had a levee at his apartments in Holyrood-House, at which his Grace the Duke of Buccleuch, Lord Dalkeith, Lord Adam Gordon, and all the officers of the Hopetoun Fencibles, and of the Staff in North Britain, attended, and were presented; as also the Sheriff Depute of Mid-Lothian, and several other gentlemen. His Royal Highness, it is understood, means to see company every Monday and Thursday."*

* On this occasion, the following verses appeared in the "Scots Chronicle" of the 2d March, 1796:—

"O Scotia! take me to thy arms—
 Thy friendly arms O stretch to me!
 My native land has lost her charms—
 From Gallia's shore I come to thee:
 From Gallia's once dear sprightly shore
 I fly to thee, her ancient friend;
 Oh! ope the hospitable door—
 Wilt thou a royal head defend?"

The purple stream and deluged plains,
 So late the terror of mine eyes,
 My wounded breast the shock retains,
 And every throb of pleasure dies.



1 MAY 1796

The royal suite remained for several years at Holyrood-House, during which period the Count frequently visited London, from whence, it is said, he directed the operations of the Chouans in Bretagne. He also visited Sweden in 1804, and again returned to Britain in 1806.

CHARLES PHILIP COUNT D'ARTOIS, brother of Louis XVI., was born in 1757.* "At the beginning of the Revolution he declared against its principles, and was one of the most zealous defenders of the royal prerogatives." At length a price having been set on his head by the Convention, he was under the necessity of withdrawing himself from France; and, from 1789 till 1794, continued a wanderer among various continental courts. Towards the end of the last-mentioned year, the British Government granted him an allowance, when he embarked for Britain. Previous to the Revolution, which proved so destructive to his family, the Count is described to have been "the most gay, gaudy, fluttering, accomplished, luxurious, and expensive Prince in Europe." He married Maria Theresa, daughter of the King of Sardinia, in 1773, by whom he had two sons,—the eldest of whom, the Duc d'Angouleme, accompanied him in his exile, and arrived at Holyrood-House a few days after his father. The life of the Count d'Artois has been very much chequered. On the restoration of the Bourbon dynasty in 1815, his elder brother, the Count de Provence, ascended the throne of France as Louis XVIII., and, on his death, the Count succeeded to the crown under the title of Charles X.; but the well-known recent events of the "Glorious Three Days" again drove him and his family into exile. In 1830 he once more took up his residence at Holyrood, where he resided with the Duc and Duchess d'Angouleme, and his grandson the Duc de Bourdeaux, till 1833, when he retired to Gratz, a town of Illyria, in the Austrian dominions. There he died, of inflammation in the bowels, November 6, 1836, in the 75th year of his age.

Can Scotia hear my mournful tale,
And Scotia not afford relief?
Oh! let the voice of wo prevail—
Thy tenderness will soothe my grief."

The author of these lines is still alive, and when the Count revisited Holyrood as Charles X., he then presented him with a few lines of condolence and congratulation by the hand of a confidential friend.

* In December 1763, the subject of this notice acted a part in a little drama of compliment with which David Hume was treated at the French Court, in consideration of his literary merits. We make the following extract from a letter of Hume to Dr Robertson:—"What happened last week, when I had the honour of being presented to the Dauphin's children at Versailles, is one of the most curious scenes I have yet passed through. The Duc de B., (Bourdeaux, afterwards Louis XVI.,) the eldest, a boy ten years old, stepped forth, and told me how many friends and admirers I had in this country, and that he reckoned himself in the number, from the pleasure he had received from reading many passages of my works. When he had finished, the Count de P., (Provence, afterwards Louis XVIII.,) who is two years younger, began his discourse, and informed me that I had been long and impatiently expected in France; and that he himself expected soon to have great satisfaction from the reading of my fine history. But, what is more curious; when I was carried thence to the Count d'A., (Artois,) who is but four (six) years of age, I heard him mumble something, which, though he had forgot it in the way, I conjectured, from some scattered words, to have been also a panegyric dictated to him. Nothing could more surprise my friends, the Parisian philosophers, than this incident."—RITCHIE'S "Life of Hume," 155.

No. XC.

JOHN DHU.

THIS is another likeness of the renowned civic guardsman, of whom a short notice has been given in No. II. The warlike career of the well-known *Shon*, however, had not always been confined to the quelling of mobs and drunken squabbles: he was

“ A soldier in his youth, and fought in famous battles,”

having originally belonged to the 42d regiment, in which he was right-hand man of the grenadiers. He was in every respect a capital specimen of one of those doughty heroes to whom Burns alludes in his “ Earnest Cry and Prayer,”—

“ But bring a Scotsman frae his hill—
Clap in his cheek a Highland gill—
Say such is Royal George’s will,
An’ there’s the foe—
He has nae thocht but how to kill
Twa at a blow.”

John nobly supported the character of his countrymen at the attack on Ticonderago, in North America, where the “ Royal Highlanders” were distinguished by most unexampled gallantry—although they at the same time suffered severely for their temerity.

After sharing in the manifold fatigues of the Canadian war, John was discharged; and, as stated in the former notice, became one of the Edinburgh Town Guard. While in this situation, he was met one very warm day by Captain Charles Menzies—who had been a cadet in the Royal Highlanders in 1758—whilst going down to Leith Races. Not having seen his old comrade for a long time, the Captain accosted him in a very friendly manner—a condescension highly gratifying to John—and, after a short congratulation, observed, as they were about to part, “ that it was a very hot day.” “ Och, och, Captain,” replied *Shon*—“ no half siccan a warm day as we had at Ticonderago !”

Although he had been an undaunted soldier, and was a terror to the mobocracy of Edinburgh, he was altogether a man of kind feelings, and by no means overstepped the limits of his duty, unless very much provoked. Many yet remember his conduct towards those young delinquents, whose petty depredations brought them under his surveillance. After detaining them in the guard-house for a short time, and having administered a little wholesome terror, by way of caution, should they “ ever do the like again,” *Shon* would open the half-door of the guard-room, and push them out with a gentle slap on the breech, saying—“ There noo, pe off; an’ I’ll say you’ll didna rin awa’,”—meaning that he would make an excuse for them.

John was the intimate friend of Stewart, the *original* Serjeant-major of the 42d regiment, who died about fifty years ago at Danderhaugh.

