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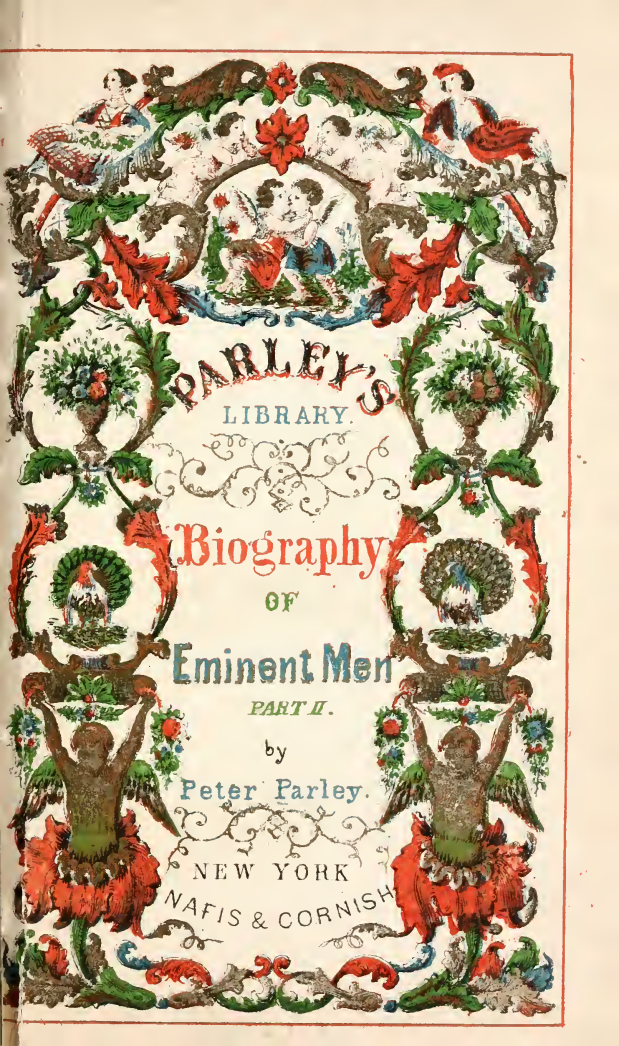
PARLEY'S
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Biography
OF
Eminent Men
PART II.
by
Peter Parley.
NEW YORK
NAFIS & CORNISH

BIOGRAPHY

OF

EMINENT MEN,

STATESMEN, HEROES, AUTHORS, ARTISTS, AND MEN OF SCIENCE,

OF

EUROPE AND AMERICA.

FROM THE BEST AUTHORITIES.

PART II.

NEW YORK:

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CONTENTS.

PREFACE.

The following collection of Lives, Memoirs, and Characteristic Anecdotes of illustrious persons, has been made in the course of an extensive reading of biography and history, and is now presented to the public, with the belief that in an age when fiction claims so much, truth may be allowed some attention. The materials, it will be observed, have been drawn from various authentic sources; and where the field was so wide, it was found much more difficult to select than to accumulate. In making the selection, it has been a principal object to take such memoirs and sketches only as would be likely to interest the reader, either from the celebrity of the character, the nobleness of the traits, or the graphic fidelity of delineation. Pictures have been sought which should present either bold sketching, or elegant finishing, which should strike by their spirit and vigour, or captivate by their masterly execution. We have not attempted a portrait gallery, but merely a "Cabinet," in which the paintings are not numerous or large; but it is to be hoped that they will be found both striking and pleasing.

We cannot close this preface without quoting some happy remarks of a contemporary on the species of composition, of which the following extracts furnish specimens:

"We know of no species of composition so delightful as that which presents us with personal anecdotes of eminent men; and if its greatest charm be in the gratification of our curiosity, it is a curiosity, at least, that has its origin in enthusiasm. We

are anxious to know all that is possible to be known of those who have an honoured place in public opinion. It is not merely that every circumstance derives a value from the person to whom it relates; but an apparently insignificant anecdote often throws an entirely new light on the history of the most admired works: the most noble actions, intellectual discoveries, or brilliant deeds, though they shed a broad and lasting lustre round those who have achieved them, occupy but a small portion of the life of an individual; and we are not unwilling to penetrate the dazzling glory, and to see how the remaining intervals are filled up, to look into the minor details, to detect incidental foibles, and to be satisfied what qualities they have in common with ourselves, as well as distinct from us, entitled to our pity, or raised above our imitation. The heads of great men, in short, are not all we want to get a sight of; we wish to add the limbs, the drapery, the back-ground. It is thus, that, in the intimacy of retirement, we enjoy with them 'calm contemplation and poetic ease;' we see the careless smile play upon their expressive features; we hear the dictates of unstudied wisdom, or the sallies of sportive wit, fall without disguise from their lips; we see, in fine, how poets, and philosophers, and scholars, live, converse, and behave."

THE

CABINET OF BIOGRAPHY.

ANDREW JACKSON.

Andrew Jackson, a major-general in the army of the United States, was born near Camden, South Carolina, March 15, 1767. He was sent to a flourishing academy at the Waxaw settlement, where he remained, occupied with the dead languages, until the revolutionary war brought the enemy into his neighbourhood, whose approach left no alternative but the choice of the British or American banners. The intrepid and ardent boy, encouraged by his patriotic mother, hastened, at the age of fourteen, in company with one of his brothers, and joined the American standard, and shared the glory of the well-fought action at Stono. Not long after, the Americans engaged the British army, and were routed, and our hero was taken among the prisoners. At the close of the war, he returned to his classical studies, and at the age of eighteen he repaired to Salisbury, North Carolina, to a lawyer's office, in which he prepared himself for the bar.

In the winter of 1786, he obtained a license to practise, from thence he removed to Nashville, Tennessee, and there fixed his residence. Success attended his industry and talents, and, ere long, he was appointed attorney-general for the district.

In 1796, he was elected a member of the convention, to frame a constitution for the state. In this body he

acquired additional distinction, which placed him in the same year in Congress, in the house of representatives, and the following year in the senate of the United States.

He acted invariably with the republican party, and was esteemed for the soundness of his understanding and the moderation of his demeanor.

While a senator, he was chosen by the field officers of the Tennessee militia, without consultation with him, major-general of their division, and so remained until 1814, when he took the same rank in the service of the United States.

In 1799, on his resignation as a senator, he was appointed one of the judges of the Supreme Court of Tennessee. He accepted this appointment with reluctance, and withdrew from the bench soon after, with the determination to spend the rest of his life in tranquillity and seclusion, on a beautiful farm belonging to him, on the Cumberland river, about ten miles from Nashville.

His quiet felicity, however, was soon broken up, by the occurrence of the war with Great Britain. It roused his martial spirit, and drew around his standard 2500 men, which he tendered, without delay, to his government. In November, he descended the Mississippi, for the defence of the lower country, which was then thought to be in danger. As soon as tranquillity was restored, he returned to Nashville, and communicated to government the result of his expedition.

In 1813, on the news arriving of the massacre at fort Mimms, by a party of the British and a strong body of the Creek Indians, under the celebrated Tecumseh, the Legislature called into service 3500 of the militia, to march into the heart of the Creek nation, and revenge the massacre.

General Jackson, although at that time labouring under severe indisposition, reached the encampment on the 7th October, 1813, and took command of the

expedition. The first battle which he fought in person on this occasion, was at the fort of Talladega, a fort of the friendly Cherokee Indians, which had for some days been besieged by near 2000 Creeks. In this affair, he routed the Indians, with a loss of only fifteen killed and eighty wounded; while that of the Indians was upwards of six hundred. The want of provisions obliged him to march back to fort Strother. On their arrival there, no stores were found by the famished troops, owing to the delinquency of the contractors. The sufferings of the army by this time had become incredible; the militia resolved to a man to abandon the service. On the morning when they intended to carry their intention into effect, General Jackson drew up the volunteer companies in front of them, and gave his mandate not to advance. The firmness displayed on this occasion was so striking, that the militia returned to their quarters, and were the next day, in their turn, employed to put in check a part of the volunteer corps who had mutinied. General Jackson was obliged, however, to withdraw the troops from fort Strother, towards fort Deposit, upon the condition that if they met supplies, which were expected, they would return and prosecute the campaign. They had not proceeded more than ten miles, before they met 150 beeves; but their faces being once turned homeward, they resisted his order to march back to the encampment. The scene which ensued is characteristic of his firmness and decision. A whole brigade had put itself in the attitude for moving off forcibly: Jackson, though disabled in his left arm, seizing a musket, and resting it with his right hand on the neck of his horse, he threw himself in front of the column, and threatened to shoot the first man who should attempt to advance. Major Reid and General Coffee placed themselves by his side. For several minutes the column preserved a menacing attitude, yet hesitated to proceed: at length it quietly turned round, and agreed to submit. This was a

critical period: but for the daring intrepidity of Jackson, the campaign would have been broken up, and the object of their expedition.

A third considerable mutiny, which happened not long after, was suppressed by personal efforts of the same kind.

Once more, in the middle of January, 1814, he was on his march, bending his course to a part of the Tallapoosa river, near the mouth of a creek, called Emuckfaw. On the 21st, at night, he discovered he was in the neighbourhood of the enemy. At the dawn of the next morning, he was fiercely attacked by them. The whole of the day was spent in severe fighting, when the enemy drew off for the night. The next day, the enemy returned to the conflict with renewed ardour, and was finally routed. The loss of the enemy was immense.

General Jackson then moved forward, and encamped within three miles of fort Strother. Having accomplished the several objects of this perilous expedition, in February he discharged the volunteers and his artillery company, receiving in their stead fresh militia, drafted for the occasion. On the 16th March, he altered his plan, and determined to penetrate further into the enemy's country: he accordingly set out from fort Strother, and came up with the enemy at the village of Tohopeka, where the enemy had taken much pains to secure themselves by a fortification. On the 27th, General Jackson attacked the enemy, and for a time the contest was obstinate and bloody. At length the Americans proved victorious, after one of the most bloody battles which we have recorded on the annals of Indian warfare. The loss of the enemy was upwards of seven hundred killed, besides several hundred prisoners, women and children, who were treated with tenderness and humanity. Having thus struck a decisive blow, the hostile tribes sued for peace, which was granted to them, on certain conditions: those who rejected them sought refuge along the coast, and in Pensacola.

All resistance being at an end, General Jackson issued orders for the troops to be marched home and discharged.

The complete and final discomfiture of so formidable a foe as this confederacy of the Creek tribes, drew the attention of the general government to the Tennessee commander, and in consideration of his services, he was promoted as a brigadier and brevet major-general in the regular army, May, 1814, General Jackson, with Colonel Hawkins, by order of government, was deputed to negotiate with the vanquished Indians, for the purpose chiefly of restricting their limits, so as to cut off their communication with the British and Spanish agents. They reached their place of destination on the 10th July, and by the 10th August, completely effected the object of their mission. During this transaction, his mind was struck with the importance of depriving the fugitive and refractory Indians of the aid and incitement which were administered to them in East Florida. For this purpose, he urged to the president the propriety of the measure, having already, from information which he had received, anticipated the attack on New Orleans. He accordingly, of his own accord, addressed the governor of Pensacola, and summoned him to deliver up the chiefs of the hostile Indians, who were harboured in their fortress. The governor peremptorily refused. General Jackson again addressed his government on the necessity of planting the American eagle on the Spanish walls. He addressed the governors of Tennessee, Louisiana, and Mississippi, to be vigilant and energetic, "for dark and heavy clouds hovered over the seventh military district." He sent his adjutant-general, Colonel Butler, to Tennessee to raise volunteers, and himself repaired to Mobile, to put that region in a plan of defence. This position had until this time been wholly neglected. General Jackson, at once perceiving its great importance, lost no time in strengthening it. About a fortnight after his arrival, a squadron of

British ships made an attack upon fort Boroyer, eighteen miles below the head of Mobile bay, but was repulsed by the loss of one of their best ships and 230 men killed and wounded. General Jackson became more and more persuaded, that unless Pensacola should be reduced, it would be in vain to think of defending his district. He accordingly took up the line of march with the American army, and reached Pensacola on the 6th of November. He found on his arrival, the forts garrisoned by the British and Spaniards, and prepared for resistance. He forthwith required a surrender of the several forts to be garrisoned and held by the United States, until Spain should furnish a force sufficient to protect the neutrality from the British. The governor peremptorily refused to accede to these terms. General Jackson immediately pushed forward to the attack, and after some carnage, he forced the governor and his advisers to a submission.

Two days after entering the town, General Jackson abandoned it, and returned to fort Montgomery, being satisfied with having driven away the British, forced the hostile Creeks to fly to the forests, and produced a salutary impression on the minds of the Spaniards.

He now proceeded to New Orleans, where he apprehended the most danger, and on the first December established his headquarters in that place.

Here he sounded the alarm of the approaching danger to his fellow-citizens; roused the Legislature to lend him their aid, and to prepare with all expedition for the coming foe.

Too soon, alas! was this foresight realized, to the consternation of the slumbering citizens.

On the 14th the British attacked the American flotilla on lake Borgne, and captured it, but not without a severe contest, and heavy loss of men.

On the 16th, he reviewed the militia, and haranged them with his usual eloquence.

Resistance on the lakes being at an end, the enemy had nothing to do but to advance.

On the 22d, the British were accidently discovered advancing from the swamp and woods, about seven miles below the town; when General Jackson, immediately on hearing of their approach, resolved to meet them. On the night of the 23d, about dusk, the Americans commenced the attack; the battle, complicated and fierce, continued for some time, until both parties were thrown into confusion, owing to the darkness of the night; the enemy withdrew from the field of battle about a mile. This action for boldness of conception, and by the wisdom of the policy and the importance of the result, does infinite credit to the American hero. As the enemy continued to receive hourly reinforcements, which now amounted to upwards of 6000 men, General Jackson drew off his troops, and resolved to act defensively until he should be reinforced. He placed his men behind an intrenchment, with a determination to resist to the last extremity. On the 28th, the British force, being further increased, and led on by their chief, Lieutenant-General Sir Edward Packenham, attempted to storm the American works, but were gallantly repulsed.

Skirmishes were kept up between the two armies, until the *memorable eighth* of January, when the enemy moved to the charge so unexpectedly, and with so much celerity, that the American soldiers at the outposts had scarcely time to fly in. The whole plain was one continued glare of lightning from the shower of rockets, bombs, and balls, poured in from the enemy. Two British divisions, headed by Sir Edward Packenham in person, in the mean time pressed forward. When they had arrived within a short distance of the intrenchments, the Americans discharged a volley of death into their ranks, and arrested their progress. Sir Edward fell, Generals Gibbs and Keene were wounded, and were carried off from the field, which by this time was strewed with the dead and dying. The British columns, often broken and driven back, were repeatedly formed, and urged forward anew.

Convinced at last that nothing could be accomplished, they abandoned the contest, and a general and disorderly retreat ensued. The number of British engaged amounted to 14,000; their loss on this day amounted to nearly 3000, while that of the Americans was but *thirteen killed!* On the 18th they took their final leave, and embarked in their shipping for the West Indies. Thus ended the mighty invasion, in twenty-six days after they exultingly placed their standard on the banks of the Mississippi. Thus triumphed *General Jackson*, by a wonderful combination of boldness and prudence; energy and adroitness; desperate fortitude, and anxious patriotism.

On his return to the city of New Orleans, he was hailed as her *Deliverer!* The most solemn and lively demonstrations of public respect and gratitude succeeded each other daily, until the period of his departure for Nashville; nor was the sensation throughout the Union less enthusiastic. Soon after the annunciation of the peace, concluded at Ghent, he retired to his farm, once more to enjoy its rural pleasures.

In January, 1818, General Jackson was again called into active service to chastise a portion of the Seminole Indians, who instigated by British adventurers, had already appeared on our frontiers, and had committed the most unheard of massacres. In this critical state of affairs, with that zeal and promptness which have ever marked his career, after having first collected a body of Tennessee volunteers, repaired to the post assigned, and assumed the command. He immediately crossed the Spanish line, penetrated into the Seminole towns, and reduced them to ashes. He then pursued his march to St. Marks, and found a large body of Indians and negroes collected. After ascertaining that they had been supplied with arms by the enemy, and that the Spanish storehouses were appropriated to their use, to store plundered goods from the Americans, General Jackson made no hesitation, after hearing a long list of other grievances, to

demand a surrender of the post. A hesitation was made; when General Jackson, convinced of the necessity of rapid movements, took it by force, marched his forces to Suwany, seized upon the stores of the enemy, and burnt their villages.

Having thus far effected his objects, General Jackson considered the war at an end. St. Marks being garrisoned by an American force; the Indian towns destroyed; the two Indian chiefs, and the two foreign instigators, Arbuthnot and Armbrister, having been taken and executed, he ordered the troops to be discharged.

General Jackson returned to Nashville in June, 1818, to the beloved retirement of his farm. New acknowledgments, and new marks of admiration were bestowed upon him in every part of the Union.

On the meeting of Congress, General Jackson repaired to Washington, to explain the transactions of this last expedition, in person, and to defend himself from the imputation of an intention to violate the laws of his country, or the obligations of humanity. This he did in the most able manner. Whoever studies his ample and argumentative despatches, and the speeches delivered in his behalf, must be convinced that he did neither; and that in making an example of the two instigators and confederates of the Indians, and seizing upon fortresses, which were only used for hostile purposes, he avenged and served the cause of humanity, and the highest national interests. From Washington, he came to Philadelphia, and proceeded to New York. Wherever he appeared, he received the smiles and unceasing plaudits of a grateful people. At New York, on the 19th February, he received the freedom of the city in a gold box; and there as well as in Baltimore, the municipal councils obtained his portrait, to be placed in their halls.

After the cession of the Floridas, the president appointed him first as a commissioner for receiving the provinces, and then to assume the government of them.

On the 1st July, 1821, he issued, at Pensacola, his proclamation announcing the possession of the territory, and the authority of the United States. He also at once adopted rigorous measures for the introduction of a regular and efficacious administration of affairs.

The injury which his health had suffered from the personal hardships, inevitable in his campaigns, forbade him to protract his residence in Florida. Accordingly on the 7th October, 1821, he delegated his powers to two gentlemen, the secretaries of his government, and set out on his return to Nashville.

In this year, the corporation of New Orleans voted $50,000 for erecting a marble statue appropriated to his military services.

On the 4th July, 1822, the governor of Tennessee, by order of the Legislature, presented him with a sword, as a testimonal of the "high respect" entertained by the state for his public services.

On the 20th August, the General Assembly of Tennessee recommended him to the Union for the office of president of the United States.

In the autumn of 1823, he was elected to the senate of the United States, in which body he took his seat.

Before his election to the senate, he was appointed by the president, with the concurrence of the senate, minister plenipotentiary to Mexico, but he declined the honour.

In person, General Jackson was tall, and remarkably erect and thin. His features were large; his eyes dark blue, with a keen and strong glance; his complexion was that of a war-worn soldier. His demeanor was gentle and easy; affable and accessible to all; of great mildness and kindness of disposition.

General Jackson's eminent abilities and services had early commended him to the notice of the people of the United States, as a suitable candidate for the presidency. He was nominated by his own state Legislature, (Tennessee,) and soon became the popular candidate. Of the electoral votes which were

given in at the end of 1824, he received 99, Mr. Adams 84, Mr. Crawford 41, and Mr. Clay 37. The election devolving on the House of Representatives, Mr. Adams was chosen by the representatives of a majority of the states.

In 1828, and again in 1832, General Jackson was elected by 178 electoral votes against 83 given to Mr. Adams. On the third trial in 1832, General Jackson had a majority of 170 electorial votes over his opponent, Mr. Clay.

The first term of General Jackson's administration was distinguished by the removal of the Indians to the western border of the Mississippi, and the veto of the bank charter, both which measures were approved by the people. His second administration was marked by the outbreak of nullification in South Carolina, which was undoubtedly suppressed by the firmness of the president, which rendered the malecontents eager for a compromise. The other great events of this term were the removal of the bank deposits, the censure vote of the senate, and its being expunged, and, finally, the threatened outbreak with France, which was averted by Jackson's firmness and intrepidity.

General Jackson retired from the office of president on the 4th of March, 1837. He survived his presidency somewhat more than eight years, dying at his residence, the "Hermitage," near Nashville, on the 8th of June, 1845. Though enfeebled in body, he retained his mental faculties, apparently undiminished till the day of his death.

"The violence of political strife," says a late writer, "will long confuse men's judgment of his character and abilities as a whole; but will accord to him the praise of great firmness, energy, decision, and disinterestedness—of remarkable military skill and ardent patriotism.

SERGEANT JASPER.

Jasper was a man of strong mind, but as it had not been cultivated by education, he modestly declined the acceptance of a commission, which was offered to him. His conduct, however, merits particular notice, and his name is entitled to a page in the history of fame. At the commencement of the revolutionary war, Jasper enlisted in the second South Carolina regiment of infantry, commanded by Colonel Moultrie, as a sergeant. He distingnished himself in a particular manner at the attack which was made upon Fort Moultrie, on Sullivan's island, the 28th of June, 1776. In the warmest part of the contest, the flag-staff was severed by a cannon ball, and the flag fell to the bottom of the ditch, on the outside of the works. This accident was considered by the anxious inhabitants of Charleston as putting an end to the contest, by striking the American flag to the enemy. The moment that Jasper made discovery that the flag had fallen, he jumped from one of the embrasures, and mounted the colours, which he tied to a sponge staff, and replanted them on the parapet, where he supported them until another flag-staff was procured. The subsequent activity and enterprise of this patriot, induced Colonel Moultrie to give him a sort of a roving commission, to go and come at pleasure, confident that he was always usefully employed. He was privileged to select such men from the regiment as he chose to accompany him in his enterprises. His parties consisted of five or six; and he often returned with prisoners before Moultrie was apprised of his absence. Jasper was distinguished for his humane treatment when an enemy fell into his power. His ambition appears to have been limited to the characteristics of bravery, humanity and usefulness, to the cause in which he engaged. When it was in his power to kill, but not capture, it was his practice to permit a single prisoner

to escape. By his sagacity and enterprise, he often succeeded in the capture of those who were lying in ambush for him. In one of these excursions, an instance of bravery and humanity is recorded by the biographer of General Marion, which would stagger credulity, if it was not well attested. While he was examining the British camp at Ebenezer, all the sympathy of his kind heart was awakened by the distresses of Mrs. Jones, whose husband, an American by birth, had taken the king's protection, and been confined in irons for deserting the royal cause, after he had taken the oath of allegiance. Her well-founded belief was, that nothing short of the life of her husband would atone for the offence with which he was charged. Anticipating the awful scene of a beloved husband expiring upon the gibbet, had excited inexpressible emotions of grief and distraction.

Jasper secretly consulted with his companion, Sergeant Newton, whose feelings for the distressed female and her child, were equally excited with his own, upon the practicability of releasing Jones from his impending fate. Though they were unable to suggest a plan of operation, they had determined to watch for the most favourable opportunity, and make the effort. The departure of Jones and several others (all in irons) to Savannah, for trial, under a guard consisting of a sergeant, a corporal, and eight men, was ordered upon the succeeding morning. Within two miles of Savannah, about thirty yards from the main road, is a spring of fine water, surrounded by a deep and thick underwood, where travellers often halt to refresh themselves with a cool draught from the pure fountain. Jasper and his companion considered this the most favourable to their enterprize. They accordingly passed the guard and concealed themselves near the spring. When the enemy came up, they halted, and only two of the guard remained with the prisoners while the others leaned their guns against trees in a careless manner and went to the spring. Jasper and Newton

seized two of the muskets, and disabled two sentinels. The possession of all the arms placed the enemy in their power, and compelled them to surrender. The irons were taken off, and put into the hands of those who had been prisoners, and the whole party arrived at Perrysburg the next morning and joined the American camp. There are but few instances upon record, where personal exertions, even for self-preservation from certain death would have induced resort to an act so desperate of execution. How much more laudable was this where the spring to action was roused by the lamentation of a female, unknown to the adventurers.

Subsequent to the gallant defence of Sullivan's Island, Colonel Moultrie's regiment was presented with a stand of colours by Mrs. Elliot, which she had richly embroidered with her own hands, and as a reward for Jasper's particular merit, Governor Rutledge presented him with a very handsome sword. During the assault against Savannah, two officers had been killed, and one wounded endeavouring to plant these colours upon the enemy's parapet of the spring hill redoubt. Just before the retreat was ordered, Jasper endeavoured to replace them upon the works, and while he was in the act, received a mortal wound and fell into the ditch. When the retreat was ordered he recollected the honourable conditions upon which the donor presented the colours of the regiment, and among the last acts of his life succeeded in bringiug them off. Major Horry called to see him soon after the retreat, to whom, it is said, he made the following communication: "I have got my furlough. That sword was presented to me by Governor Rutledge for my services in defence of Fort Moultrie; give it to my father, and tell him, I wore it in honour. If the old man should weep, tell him his son died in hopes of a better life. Tell Mrs. Elliott that I lost my life in supporting the colours, which she presented to our regiment. Should you ever see Jones, wife and son, tell them Jasper is gone, but the remembrance of that battle which he

fought for them, brought a secret joy into my heart, when it was about to stop its motions for ever." He expired in a few minutes after closing this sentence

ARTEMAS WARD.

Artemas Ward, the first major-general in the American army, was graduated at Harvard college in 1743, and was afterwards a representative in the Legislature, a member of the council, and a justice of the court of common pleas for Worcester county, Massachusetts. When the war commenced with Great Britain he was appointed by Congress first major-general, June 17, 1775. After the arrival of Washington, in July, when disposition was made of the troops for the siege of Boston, the command of the right wing of the army at Roxbury was intrusted to General Ward. He resigned his commission in April, 1776, though he continued some time longer in command at the request of Washington. He afterwards devoted himself to the duties of civil life. He was a member of Congress both before and after the adoption of the present constitution. After a long decline, in which he exhibited the most exemplary patience, he died at Shrewsbury, October 28, 1800, aged seventy-three years. He was a man of incorruptible integrity. So fixed and unyielding were the principles which governed him, that his conscientiousness in lesser concerns was by some ascribed to bigotry.

MARQUIS DE LAFAYETTE.

Marquis de Lafayette, a major-general in the army of the United States.

The name and character of this illustrious French nobleman, will occupy a conspicuous place in our biographic annals, and be honoured by posterity no less for his enthusiastic love of liberty, than for his heroism and military renown.

In the year 1776, at the immature age of nineteen, he espoused the cause of the Americans, and nobly resolved to afford our country all possible assistance by his personal services and influence. At this era, the affairs of America were bordering on despair, and were represented in France as so deplorable, that it might be supposed sufficient to repress the most determined zeal. Reports were propagated in that country, that our army, reduced to a mere rabble, was flying before an army of 30,000 regulars; nor was this very wide from the reality. In consequence of this, our commissioners found it impossible to procure a vessel to convey the marquis and their own despatches to Congress; they could not therefore feel justified in encouraging his bold contemplated enterprise. This embarrassment, however, had the effect of increasing, rather than of restraining his youthful ardour and heroism.

He at length imparted to the commissioners his determination to purchase and fit out a vessel to convey himself and their despatches to America. This project was deemed so extraordinary and important, that it did not fail to engage universal attention. The French court had not then declared even a friendly intention towards America, but, on the contrary, was extremely cautious of giving offence to the British government. Orders were therefore given, prohibiting the departure of this nobleman, and vessels were even despatched to the West Indies to intercept him, in

case he should take that route. The marquis was well apprized that he exposed himself to the loss of his fortune by the laws of France; and that, should he fall into the hands of the English, on his passage, he would be liable to a confinement of uncertain duration, and without a prospect of being exchanged.

These considerations, however, did not deter him from the attempt; and bidding adieu to his amiable consort, and numerous endeared connexions, and trusting to good fortune to favour his elopement, he embarked, and in due time arrived safe in Charleston, in the summer of 1776. He landed soon after the noble defence made by General Moultrie, at the fort on Sullivan's island. Charmed with the gallantry displayed by that general and his brave troops, the marquis presented him with clothing, arms, and accoutrements, for one hundred men. He met with a cordial reception from our Congress, and they immediately accepted his proffered services. He insisted that he would receive no compensation, and that he would commence his services as a volunteer.

This noble philanthropist was received into the family of the commander-in-chief, where a strong mutual attachment was contracted, and he has often been called the adopted son of Washington. July 31, 1777, Congress resolved. that, "whereas the Marquis de Lafayette, out of his great zeal to the cause of liberty in which the United States are engaged, has left his family and connexions, and at his own expense come over to offer his services to the United States without pension or particular allowance, and is anxious to risk his life in our cause—Resolved, that his service be accepted, and that in consideration of his zeal, illustrious family, and connexions, he have the rank and commission of major-general in the army of the United States." At the battle of Brandywine, September, 1777, the marquis exhibited full proof of his undaunted bravery and military character, and received a wound in his leg. In May, 1778, with a

select corps of 2500 men, he crossed the Schuylkill and took post about twelve miles in front of our army at Valley Forge; while at this place the enemy formed a design of surprising him, but fortunately the marquis gained intelligence of their approach, and by a prompt decision effected his retreat, and recrossed the river in season to defeat their design.

In August, 1778, the marquis repaired to Rhode Island to assist in the expedition under General Sullivan, in conjunction with the French fleet, and he received the particular approbation and applause of Congress for his judicious and highly important services. In January, 1779, the marquis embarked at Boston, on a voyage to France.

He returned again in May, 1780, bringing the joyful intelligence that a French fleet and army would soon arrive on our coast.

Through his great zeal for the cause of the United States, he had exerted his influence with his government, no longer fearful of giving offence to the English, to afford money and troops, and other important succours. He was soon put at the head of a select corps of light infantry for the service of the campaign. This afforded him a new opportunity for the display of his munificence. He presented to every officer under his command an elegant sword, and his soldiers were clothed in uniform principally at his expense. He infused into this corps a spirit of pride and emulation, viewing it as one formed and modelled according to his own wishes, and as deserving his highest confidence. They were the pride of his heart, and he the idol of their regard; constantly panting for an opportunity of accomplishing some signal achievement worthy of his and their character. In December, 1780, he marched with 1200 light infantry for Virginia, to counteract the devastations of Arnold and Phillips. He made a forced march of 200 miles, and prevented General Phillips possessing himself of Richmond, and secured the stores of that place. At

one period there was not a single pair of shoes in his whole command, and such was his zeal and generous spirit, and such the confidence and respect of the people, that he was enabled to borrow of the merchants of Baltimore 2000 guineas on his own credit, with which he purchased shoes and other necessary articles for his troops.

He was afterwards employed in watching the motions of Lord Cornwallis in Virginia, with an inferior force; in this arduous duty he displayed the judgment, skill, and prudence of a veteran, with the ardour of youth.

Lord Cornwallis, having encamped near Jamestown, the marquis sent General Wayne with the Pennsylvania troops, to take their station within a small distance of the British army and watch their motions. The two advanced parties were soon engaged, and General Wayne drove that of the enemy back to their lines, and without stopping there, attacked the whole British army drawn up in order of battle, and charged them with bayonets. The action was extremely severe for the little time it lasted, but the disproportion of numbers was so great, that the enemy was on the point of surrounding our troops, when the marquis arrived in person just time enough to order a retreat, by which they were rescued from their hazardous situation, after suffering considerable loss.

Great encomiums were passed on the marquis, for his humanity and goodness, in visiting and administering to the relief of the wounded soldiers.

During the siege of Lord Cornwallis, at Yorktown, the marquis was among the most active and intrepid of the general officers, and he commanded a detachment of our light infantry, which successfully assaulted the British redoubt, on the right of our lines.

During his military career in America, the marquis displayed that patriotism, integrity, humanity, and every other virtue, which characterize real greatness of soul. The most affectionate attachment subsisted

between him and the illustrious chief, under whose banners it was his delight to serve, and whose language was—"This nobleman unites to all the military fire of youth, an uncommon maturity of judgment." His very soul burned with the spirit of enterprise, and he manifested a disinterestedness and devotion in the cause of freedom, ever to be admired and applauded by a grateful people.

In December, 1784, when the marquis was about to take his final departure from America, Congress appointed a committee, consisting of one member from each state, to receive him, and in the name of Congress to take leave of him, in such a manner as might strongly manifest their esteem and regard for him. The marquis, on this occasion, made a very respectful and affectionate reply, and thus concluded his address: "May this immense temple of freedom ever stand as a lesson to oppressors, an example to the oppressed, a sanctuary for the rights of mankind; and may these happy United States attain that complete splendour and prosperity which will illustrate the blessings of their government, and for ages to come, rejoice the departed souls of its founders. Never can Congress oblige me so much as when they put it in my power, in every part of the world, to the latest day of my life, to gratify the attachment which will ever rank me among the most zealous and respectful servants of the United States."

In the same year, the university of Cambridge, and Princeton college, conferred on him the honorary degree of doctor of laws. He was also elected a member of the American academy of arts and sciences, and of the American philosophical society.

At length, after a lapse of forty years, this illustrious hero again isited our shores. His reception was splendid beyond description, and language fails to represent the spontaneous burst of feeling it created. History presents no parallel. From one extremity of this great republic to the other, every pen was occu-

pied in spreading his fame; every tongue was pronouncing his eulogies, and the whole collected mass of citizens was endeavouring to render him that homage he so justly merited.

> Hail to the hero!—shout millions of voices,
> Enjoying the freedom secured by his toil;
> Hail to the hero!—a nation rejoices
> To welcome its guest, returned to its soil.

Having celebrated, at Bunker Hill, the anniversary of the first conflict of the revolution, and, at Yorktown, that of its closing scene, in which he himself had borne so conspicuous a part, and taken leave of the four ex-presidents of the United States, he received the farewell of the president in the name of the nation, and sailed from the capital in a frigate named, in compliment to him, the Brandywine, September 7, 1825, and arrived at Havre, where the citizens, having peaceably assembled to make some demonstration of their respect for his character, were dispersed by the *gendarmerie*. In December preceding, the Congress of the United States made him a grant of $200,000, and a township of land, "in consideration of his important services and expenditures during the American revolution." The grant of money was in the shape of stock, bearing interest at six per cent., and redeemable December 31, 1834, In August, 1827, he attended the obsequies of Manuel, over whose body he pronounced a eulogy. In November, 1827, the chamber of deputies was dissolved. Lafayette was again returned a member by the new elections. Shortly before the revolution of 1830, he travelled to Lyons, &c., and was enthusiastically received—a striking contrast to the conduct of the ministers towards him, and an alarming symptom to the despotic government. During the revolution of July, 1830, he was appointed general-in-chief of the national guards of Paris (q. v.,) and, though not personally engaged in the fight, his activity and name were of the greatest service. To

the Americans, Lafayette, the intimate friend of Washington, had appeared, in his late visit, almost like a great historical character returning from beyond the grave. In the eyes of the French, he is a man of the early days of their revolution—a man, moreover, who has never changed side or principle. His undeviating consistency is acknowledged by all, even by those who do not allow him the possession of first rate talents. When the national guards were established throughout France, after the termination of the struggle, he was appointed their commander-in-chief, and his activity in this post was admirable. August 17, he was made marshal of France. His influence with the government seems to have been, for some time, great, but whether his principles were too decidedly republican to please the new authorities, (a few days after the adoption of the new charter, he declared himself against hereditary peerage, and repeatedly called himself a pupil of the American school,) or whether he was considered as the rallying point of the republican party, or whatever may have been the reason, he sent in his resignation in December, 1830, which was accepted, and Count Lobau appointed chief of the national guards of Paris. Lafayette declared from the tribune, that he had acted thus in consequence of the distrust which the power accompanying his situation seemed to excite in some people. On the same occasion, he also expressed his disapprobation of the new law of election. Shortly before his resignation, he exerted himself most praiseworthily to maintain order during the trial of the ex-ministers.

Dissatisfied with the system of resistance to further political progress, or, in other words, with the system styled by its supporters the "juste milieu," adopted by the government, Lafayette occupied, during the latter years of his life, the same position in the chamber of deputies that he had done under the restoration, namely, on the extreme left. Though already suffering from disease, he conceived it to be a duty which

he owed to his political friends to follow on foot to the grave the body of the *liberal* member Dulong, who had been killed by General Bugeaud in a duel (January 30th, 1834.) Overcome with fatigue, on his return to his residence he took to his bed, which he never again quitted till his death on the following 19th of May.

JOHN HANCOCK.

John Hancock, president of Congress, and a distinguished patriot, was born near Quincy, Massachusetts, about the year 1737. After receiving the honours of Cambrid geuniversity, he entered as a clerk in the counting-house of his uncle, and was regarded by his friends as an amiable young man; but he discovered no prominent traits of character which could lead his acquaintance to prognosticate the conspicuous figure he was afterwards to make in society.

At the death of his uncle, he inherited his immense estate, and soon after commenced his public career. He was first chosen selectman of the town of Boston, and in the year 1766, he was elected with Otis, Cushing, and Samuel Adams, a member of the general assembly of the province.

On taking his seat, he was flattered by marks of confidence and distinction: he was generally chosen on committees, and was chairman upon some occasions when the deliberations involved the highest interests of the community.

As soon as the controversy with Great Britain grew warm, and all hopes of accommodation had vanished, he entered into the non-importation agreement, and all other acts which were expedient to keep inviolate the liberties of the people.

In consideration of his zeal and attachment to the rights of his country, he was called to preside over the provincial assembly, and was afterwards elected a

member of the general Congress which met at Philadelphia in May, 1775; and before the close of the session, he was elected president of that august body, in the place of Peyton Randolph, who was under the necessity of returning home.

In this office, as the head of the illustrious Congress, of 1776, he signed the declaration of independence.

In consequence of the ill state of his health, he took his leave of Congress in October, 1777, and received their thanks for his unremitted attention and steady impartiality in discharging the duties of his office. Henry Laurens was his successor.

On the adoption of the present constitution of Massachusetts, he was chosen the first governor, in October, 1780. He was annually continued in that office until the year 1785, when he resigned; and after an intermission of two years, during which he had been succeeded by Mr. Bowdoin, was re-elected, and remained in the chair until the conclusion of his life.

In 1787, he was chosen president of the state convention, which met to ratify and adopt the federal constitution. His influence and agency in promoting its adoption may be mentioned with the objects which most recommend him to esteem amongst his cotemporaries, and which entitle him to the regard of posterity.

The latter years of his administration were very popular, on account of the public tranquillity. The federal government became the source of so much prosperity, that the people were easy and happy.

He died suddenly on the 8th October, 1793, in the fifty-sixth year of his age.

Mr. Hancock was above the middle size, of excellent proportion of limbs, and of extreme benignity of countenance. He was easy in his address, polished in manners, affable and liberal; and as president of Congress, he exhibited a dignity, impartiality, quickness of conception, and constant attention to business, which secured him respect. Of his talents it is a sufficient evidence, that, in the various stations to

which his fortune had elevated him in the republic, he acquitted himself with an honourable distinction and capacity. His communications to the general assembly, and his correspondence as president of Congress, are titles of no ordinary commendation.

As an orator, he spoke with ease and propriety on every subject. Being considered as a republican in principles, and a firm supporter of the cause of freedom, whenever he consented to be a candidate for governor, he was chosen to that office by an immense majority. In private life he was charitable and generous—indeed, there are few lives, either ancient or modern, that afford, of disinterested generosity, more frequent and illustrious examples. Charity was the common business of his life. From his private benevolence, a thousand families received their daily bread; and there is perhaps no individual mentioned in history, who has expended a more ample fortune in promoting the liberties of his country. He was also a generous benefactor of Harvard college.

PATRICK HENRY.

Patrick Henry, a distinguished patriot and statesman, was born at the seat of his ancestors, Hanover county, Virginia, May 29, 1736. After making some proficiency in mathematics and the languages, he was placed with a country merchant, and at the age of eighteen commenced business on his own account.

His genius, however, like Shakspeare's, moulded for a nobler and more exalted sphere of action, and destined to guide the councils of a great republic, abandoned the drudgery of the counter, and at the age of four-and-twenty, commenced the study of the law.

In a very short time, he was qualified, and commenced the practice of his profession. It was not, however, till the year 1763, that his genius burst her fetters and brought into action for the first time, the

powers of his eloquence, for which he afterwards became celebrated.

In 1764, a year memorable for the origination of that great question, which led finally to the independence of the United States, it is asserted, on the authority of President Jefferson, that "he gave the first impulse to the ball of the revolotion."

In the following year, 1765, he introduced his celebrated resolutions against the scheme of taxing America, which passed the house of burgesses in May following.

"They formed," says Mr. Henry, "the first opposition to the stamp act, and the scheme of taxing America by the British parliament. All the colonies, either through fear, or want of opportunity to form an opposition, or from influence of some kind or other, had remained silent. I had been for the first time elected a burgess, a few days before, was young, inexperienced, unacquainted with the forms of the house, and the members that composed it. Finding the men of weight averse to opposition, and the commencement of the tax at hand, and that no person was likely to step forth, I determined to venture, and alone, unadvised, and unassisted, on a blank leaf of an old law book, wrote the within (resolutions.) Upon offering them to the house, violent debates ensued. Many threats were uttered, and much abuse cast on me, by the party for submission. After a long and warm contest, the resolutions passed by a small majority, perhaps of one or two only. The alarm spread throughout America with astonishing quickness, and the ministerial party were overwhelmed.

"The great point of resistance to British taxation was universally established in the colonies. This brought on the war which finally separated the two countries, and gave independence to ours."

From this period he became the idol of the people of Virginia; nor was his name confined to his native state. His light and heat were seen and felt through-

out the continent; and he was every where regarded as the great champion of colonial liberty. The impulse thus given by Virginia, was caught by the other colonies. His resolutions were every where adopted, with progressive variations.

The spirit of resistance became bolder and bolder, until the whole continent was in a flame; and by the first of November, when the stamp act was, according to its provisions, to have taken effect, its execution had become utterly impracticable.

The house of burgesses of Virginia, which had led the opposition to the stamp act, kept their high ground during the whole of the contest, and he continued a member of the public councils till the close of the revolution: and there could be no want of boldness in any body, of which he was a member.

The elements of his character were most happily mingled for the great struggle which was now coming on. His views were not less steady than they were bold. His vision pierced deeply into futurity; and long before a whisper of independence had been heard in this land, he had looked through the whole of the approaching contest, and saw with the eye and the rapture of a prophet, his country seated aloft among the nations of the earth.

In 1774, he was elected one of the deputies from Virginia to the first Congress, which met at the Carpenters' Hall, in the city of Philadelphia, on the 4th of September following. The most eminent men of the various colonies were now, for the first time, brought together. The meeting was awfully solemn. The object of which had called them together was of incalculable magnitude. The liberties of no less than three millions of people, with all of their posterity, were staked on the wisdom and energy of their councils. No wonder, then, at the long and deep silence which is said to have followed upon their organization; at the anxiety with which the members looked around upon each other; and the reluctance which

every individual felt to open a business so fearfully momentous. In the midst of this deep and death-like silence, and just when it was beginning to become painfully embarrassing, Mr. Henry arose slowly, as if borne down by the weight of the subject. After a most impressive exordium, he launched, gradually, into a recital of the colonial wrongs. Rising, as he advanced, with the grandeur of his subject, and glowing at length with all the majesty and expectation of the occasion, his speech seemed more than that of mortal man.

Even those who had heard him in all his glory, in the house of burgesses of Virginia, were astonished at the manner in which his talents seemed to swell and expand themselves, to fill the vaster theatre in which he was now placed. At length, he closed his eloquent harangue, and sat down amidst murmurs of astonishment and applause; and as he had been before proclaimed the greatest orator of Virginia, he was now on every hand, admitted to be the first orator of America.

In October, he returned home, and was elected in March, 1775, a member of the convention which assembled for a second time at Richmond, to consult the welfare of the colony. In this body, in his usual style of eloquence, he urged the necessity of embodying, arming, and disciplining the militia, and notwithstanding his resolutions were opposed, and resisted by the influence of some of the ablest men and patriots of the convention, he urged them the more, and exclaimed, "There is no longer any room for hope. If we wish to be free—if we mean to preserve inviolate those inestimable privileges for which we have been so long contending—if we mean not basely to abandon the noble struggle in which we have been so long engaged, and which we have pledged ourselves never to abandon, until the glorious object of our contest shall be obtained—we must fight!—I repeat it, sirs, we must fight!! An appeal to arms and to the

God of hosts, is all that is left us!—Gentlemen may cry, peace, peace—but there is no peace. The war is actually begun! the next gale that sweeps from the north will bring to our ears the clash of resounding arms! Our brethren are already in the field! why stand we here idle? What is it that gentlemen wish? What would they have? Is life so dear, or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God!—I know not what course others may take; but as for me," cried he, with both arms extended aloft, his brows knit, every feature marked with the resolute purpose of his soul, and his voice swelled to its boldest note of exclamation, "give me liberty, or give me death!"

He took his seat. No murmur of applause was heard. The effect was too deep. After the trance of a moment, several members started from their seats. The cry, "to arms," seemed to quiver on every lip, and gleam from every eye! They became impatient of speech—their souls were on fire for action. The resolutions were adopted.

The storm of the revolution now began to thicken. The cloud of war had actually burst on the New England states. The colonial governors concerted measures to disarm the people, and to deprive them of gun-powder. An attempt was accordingly made to seize at the same moment the powder and arms in the several provincial magazines. Governor Gage first set the example, and was followed by similar attempts in other colonies to the north.

In turn, Governor Dunmore followed, and removed the powder from the magazine at Williamsburg. This act excited universal indignation. In the mean time Mr. Henry assembled the independent companies of Hanover and King William counties, and marched at their head towards Williamsburg, with the avowed design of obtaining payment for the powder, or of compelling its restitution. The object he effected. Thus the same man, whose genius had, in the year

1765, given the first political impulse to the revolution, had now the additional honour of heading the first military movement in Virginia, in support of the same cause. The governor immediately fortified his palace, and issued a proclamation, charging those who had procured payment for the powder, with rebellious practices. This only occasioned a number of county meetings, which applauded the conduct of Mr. Henry, and expressed a determination to protect him.

In August, 1775, when a new choice of deputies to Congress was made, he was not re-elected, for his services were now demanded more exclusively in his own state. After the departure of Lord Dunmore, he was chosen the first governor, in June, 1776, and held this office several succeeding years, bending all his exertions to promote the freedom and independence of his country.

In 1787, he was appointed one of the deputies to meet the grand convention to be held at Philadelphia, for the purpose of revising the federal constitution; the same cause, however, which had constrained his retirement from the executive chair, disabled him now from obeying the calls of his country.

Of the convention, however, which was to decide the fate of this instrument in Virginia, he was chosen a member.

The convention met in Richmond, on the 2d June, 1788, and exhibited such an array of variegated talents, as had never before been collected to one focus in that state.

In this highly respectable body, he, day after day, exerted the powers of his masterly eloquence to prevent its adoption. Though experience has proven, that he was erroneous in his judgment on this occasion, it is nevertheless due to him to state, that he contributed several valuable amendments to the *Magna Charta* of our representative government and national lory.

He continued the practice of the law until the year

1794, when he bade a final adieu to his profession, and retired to the bosom of his family. He retired loaded with honours, public and professional; and carried with him the admiration, the gratitude, the confidence, and the love of his country.

No man had ever passed through so long a life of public service, with a reputation more perfectly unspotted.

In 1796, he was again called to the gubernatorial chair, but this office he almost immediately resigned.

In the year 1797, his health began to decline, and continued to sink gradually to the moment of his death.

In 1799, he was appointed by President Adams, envoy to France. This honour he declined, on account of his advanced age and increasing debility. He lived but a short time after this testimony of respect, in which his talents and patriotism were held, for he died at Red-Hill, Charlotte county, June 6, 1799.

Thus lived, and thus died, the celebrated Patrick Henry of Virginia; a man who justly deserves to be ranked among the highest ornaments, and noblest benefactors of his country. Had his lot been cast in the republics of Greece or Rome, his name would have been enrolled by some immortal pen among the expellers of tyrants and the champions of liberty: the proudest monuments of national gratitude would have risen to his honour, and handed down his memory to future enerations.

ROBERT MORRIS.

Robert Morris, one of the signers of the declaration of independence, and an eminent financier, was born January 20, 1734.

At the age of fifteen he lost his father. Soon after his death, he was taken into the counting-house of Charles Willing, Esq., of Philadelphia, where he

served a regular apprenticeship. In a year or two after the expiration of his indentures, he entered into partnership with Mr. Thomas Willing. This connexion continued for the long period of thirty-nine years; and previously to the commencement of the American war, it was at the summit of commercial distinction.

Few men in the American colonies were more alive to the gradual encroachment of the British government upon the liberties of the people, and none more ready to remonstrate against them. His signature on the part of his mercantile house to the non-importation agreement, evinced the consistency of his principles and conduct, and at the same time was expressive of his willingness to prefer a sacrifice of private interest to the continuance of an intercourse which would add to the revenue of the government that oppressed them.

In consideration of his general intelligence, his high standing in society, and his patriotic exertions, he was appointed by the Legislature of Pennsylvania a member of the second Congress, which met at Philadelphia in 1775.

A few weeks after he had taken his seat, he was added to the secret committee, and was employed in financial arrangements of the greatest importance to the operations of the army and navy.

He frequently obtained pecuniary and other supplies on his own account, which were most pressingly required, when at the time it would have been impossible to have procured them on the account of government.

It was by his timely compliance on one of these occasions, which enabled General Washington to gain the important victory at Trenton. Many other similar instances occurred of this patriotic interposition of his own responsibility for supplies and money, which could not otherwise have been obtained.

On the 4th of July, 1776, he signed the ever memorable declaration of independence, that for ever sepa-

rated us from England, and thus pledged himself to join heart and hand with the destinies of his country, while some of his colleagues, who possessed less firmness, drew back, and retired from the contest.

He was thrice successively elected to Congress, in 1776, '77, and '78, and was one of its most useful and indefatigable members.

The free and public expression of his sentiments upon all occasions, and the confident tone of ultimate success which he supported, served to rouse the desponding, to fix the wavering, and confirm the brave.

To trace him through all the acts of his political and financial administration, would be to make a history of the last two years of the revolutionary war. When the exhausted credit of the government threatened the most alarming consequences; when the soldiers were utterly destitute of the necessary supplies of food and clothing; when the military chest had been drained of its last dollar, and even the intrepid confidence of Washington was shaken; upon his own credit, and from his own private resources, did he furnish those pecuniary means, but for which the physical energies of the country, exerted to their utmost, would have been scarcely competent to secure that prompt and glorious issue which ensued.

In the year 1781, he was appointed by Congress "superintendent of finance," an office for the first time established.

One of the first acts of his financial government was the proposition to Congress, of his plan for the establishment of the Bank of North America, which was chartered forthwith, and opened on the 7th January, 1782.

On his retirement from office, it was affirmed, by two of the Massachusetts delegates, that "it cost Congress at the rate of eighteen millions per annum, hard dollars, to carry on the war, till he was chosen financier, and then it cost them but about five millions!"

No man ever had more numerous concerns committed to his charge, and few to greater amount; and never did any one more faithfully discharge the various complicated trusts with greater despatch, economy, or credit, than the subject of this sketch.

By letter to the commissioners of the treasury board, he resigned his office of superintendent of finance, September 30, 1784.

The next public service rendered by Mr. Morris to his country, was as a member of the convention that formed the federal constitution in the year 1787. He also represented Philadelphia in the first Congress, that sat at New York after the ratification of the federal compact by the number of states required thereby, to establish it as the grand basis of the law of the land.

At length, worn down by public labour, and private misfortunes, he rapidly approached the mansion appointed for all living; the lamp of life glimmered in its socket; and that great and good man sunk into the tomb, on the 8th May, 1806, in the seventy-third year of his age.

The memory of a man of such distinguished utility cannot be lost; and while the recollection of his multiplied services are deeply engraven on the tablet of our hearts, let us hope that the day is not distant, when some public monument, recording the most momentous occurrences of his life, and characteristic of national feeling and gratitude, may mark the spot where rest the remains of Robert Morris.

JOHN JAY.

John Jay, LL.D., chief justice of the United States, and a distinguished statesman, was born in the city of New York, December 1, 1745, (O. S.) At the age of fourteen, he was placed at King's college. After taking his bachelor's degree, he studied law, and in a few years rose to distinguished eminence in his profession.

The commencement of our struggles with Great Britain found him at an age, and with feelings and talents, to render him an ardent and able supporter of his country's rights, and a fit and worthy successor to his father, whose age and infirmities forbade him to take that part in the events of the time to which he was prompted by inclination. He, therefore, commenced his political career at a point which was justly considered the honourable goal of many an older patriot's ambition.

In 1774, he was elected by the citizens of New York, a delegate to the first general Congress which met at Philadelphia; that Congress, of which to have been member, is a sufficient title to the gratitude of Americans.

In 1776, he was elected president of that august and enlightened body.

In 1777, he was a member of the convention of the state of New York, which met to deliberate and frame a new constitution; and drew the first draft of that instrument.

In 1778, he was appointed chief justice of that state. In the following year, he was appointed minister plenipotentiary to the court of Spain, and sailed for Cadiz in the beginning of December.

The object of this mission was to obtain from Spain an acknowledgment of our independence, to form a treaty of alliance, and to procure pecuniary aid: but on the two first points he failed.

Early in the summer of 1782, he was appointed one of the commissioners to negotiate a peace with England, and was authorized to continue the negotiation with Spain.

In September, 1783, he signed a definitive treaty of peace with the former, and soon after resigned his commission, and returned home.

On his arrival in the United States, he was placed at the head of the department for foreign affairs, in which office he continued till the adoption of the fede-

ral constitution, when he was appointed chief justice of the United States.

In 1794, he was appointed envoy extraordinary to Great Britain, and signed the treaty which has since borne his name.

In 1795, he was elected governor of the state of New York, and in 1801, declined a re-election, and withdrew altogether from public life.

In person, Mr. Jay was tall and of slender make; with a countenance indicative of the highest degree of intelligence. To his pen, while in Congress, was America indebted for some of those masterly addresses which reflect such high honour upon the government; to his firmness and penetration, were in no considerable degree to be ascribed those intricate negotiations which were conducted, towards the close of the war, both at Madrid and Paris.

With a mind improved by extensive reading and great knowledge of public affairs; unyielding firmness and inflexible integrity; his character, perhaps, approaches nearer than any other of modern times, to the Aristides of Plutarch. He died May 17, 1829.

RICHARD HENRY LEE.

Richard Henry Lee, president of Congress, was a native of Virginia, and from his earliest youth devoted his talents to the service of his country. His public life was distinguished by some remarkable circumstances. He had the honour of originating the first resistance to British oppression in the time of the stamp act in 1765. He proposed in the Virginia house of burgesses, in 1773, the formation of a committee of correspondence, whose object was to disseminate information, and to kindle the flame of liberty throughout the continent. He was a conspicuous member of the first Congress, and throughout the contest with Great Britain no member of that enlightened and patriotic body acted with more patriotism and zeal.

n 1784, he was chosen president of Congress, and continued a member of that body till 1787, when the constitution of the United States was submitted to the consideration of the people, he contended for the necessity of amendment, previous to its adoption.

After the government was organized, he and Mr. Grayson were chosen the first senators from Virginia, in 1789. This station he held until his resignation, in 1792, when John Taylor was appointed in his place.

He died at Chantilly, in Westmoreland county, Virginia, June 22, 1794, in the sixty-third year of his age.

He supported through life the character of a philosopher, a patriot, and a sage; and died as he had lived, a blessing to his country.

The following character of Mr. Lee is from the classic pen of William Wirt, Esq.

"Mr. Lee," says he, "had studied the classics in the true spirit of criticism. His taste had that delicate touch which seized with intuitive certainty every beauty of an author, and his genius that native affinity which combined them without an effort. Into every walk of literature and science, he had carried this mind of exquisite selection, and brought it back to the business of life, crowned with every light of learning, and decked with every wreath that all the muses and all the graces could entwine. Nor did those light decorations constitute the whole value of its freight. He possessed a rich store of historical and political knowledge, with an activity of observation, and a certainty of judgment, that turned that knowledge to the very best account. He was not a lawyer by profession; but he understood thoroughly the constitution both of the mother country and of her colonies; and the elements also of the civil and municipal law. Thus while his eloquence was free from those stiff and technical restraints, which the habits of forensic speaking are so apt to generate, he had all the legal learning which is necessary to a statesman. He rea-

soned well, and declaimed freely and splendidly. Such was his promptitude, that he required no preparation for debate. He was ready for any subject as soon as it was announced; and his speech was so copious, so rich, so mellifluous, set off with such cadence of voice, and such captivating grace of action, that, while you listened to him, you desired to hear nothing superior, and indeed thought him perfect."

ARTHUR LEE.

Arthur Lee, M. D., a distinguished statesman, was a native of Virginia, and the brother of Richard Henry Lee. He received his education at the university of Edinburgh, where he also pursued for some time the study of medicine. On his return to this country, he practised physic four or five years in Williamsburgh. He then went to London and commenced the study of the law in the temple. During his residence in England, he kept his eye upon the measures of the government, and rendered the most important services to his country by sending to America the earliest intelligence of the plans of the ministry. When the instructions to Governor Bernard were sent over, he at the same time communicated information to the town of Boston respecting the nature of them. He returned, it is believed, before 1769, for in that year he published the Monitor's letters in vindication of the colonial rights.

In 1775, he was sent to London as the agent of Virginia, and in the same year presented the second petition of Congress to the king. All his exertions were now directed to the welfare of his country. When Mr. Jefferson declined the appointment of a minister to France, he was appointed in his place, and joined his colleagues, Dr. Franklin and Mr. Deane, at Paris, in December, 1776. He assisted in negotiating the treaty with France.

On Dr. Franklin being appointed sole minister to France, Dr. Lee returned home, and was afterwards appointed one of the commissioners for holding a treaty with the Indians of the Six Nations. He accordingly went to fort Schuyler and executed this trust in a manner which did him much honour.

After a short illness, he died at Urbanna, in Middlesex county, Virginia, December 14, 1792.

He was a man of uniform patriotism, of a sound understanding, of great probity, of plain manners, and strong passions. During his residence in England, he was indefatigable in his exertions to promote the interests of his country. To the abilities of a statesman he united the acquisitions of a scholar. He was a member of the philosophical society.

RUFUS KING.

Rufus King, a distinguished statesman, and one of the signers of the federal constitution, was born in the year 1755, in the town of Scarborough, district of Maine.

In the year 1773, he was admitted a student of Harvard college, and graduated in 1777. In this seminary he acquired great reputation for his classical attainments, and more especially for his extraordinary powers of oratory. From Cambridge he went to Newburyport, and entered as a student of law in the office of the late Chief Justice Parsons, with whom he completed his studies, and was admitted to the bar in 1780.

In 1783, he was elected a member to the state Legislature of Massachusetts.

In the years 1784, '5, and '6, he was a member of the old Congress, and on several occasions, he delivered some of the most masterly speeches ever heard.

In 1787, he was appointed by the Legislature of Massachusetts, a delegate to the general convention,

held at Philadelphia, and bore a large share in the discussion and formation of our present system of government. He attended during the whole session of the convention, and was one of the committee appointed by that body to prepare and report the final draft of the constitution of the United States. He was afterwards a conspicuous and leading member of the Massachusetts convention, which met to ratify and adopt it.

In the year 1786, he married Miss Alsop, of the city of New York, to which place he removed in 1788.

In the summer of 1789, he and General Schuyler were elected the first senators from the state of New York, under the constitution of the United States.

In 1794, soon after the promulgation of the British treaty, a series of papers was published in its defence, under the signature of Camillus. The ten first numbers were written by General Hamilton, and the remainder by Mr. King. In these masterly papers there is discovered a depth of research, and an acquaintance with the various treaties and laws of different nations, on the subjects of navigation, trade, and maritime law, which render them of inestimable value.

In the spring of 1796, he was appointed by President Washington, minister plenipotentiary to the Court of Great Britain. After an absence of seven years he resigned his mission, and returned home in 1803. During his residence abroad, few foreigners lived on more intimate terms with the public men of the day, as well those in administration as the opposition. He frequented the society of literary men, and has since maintained a correspondence with some of the most distinguished civilians of the old world.

In 1813, he was again chosen by the Legislature of New York, a senator of the United States.

In person, Mr. King was above the middle size, and somewhat athletic. His countenance is manly, and bespeaks intelligence of the first order. His conversation and writings are remarkable for conciseness, force, and simplicity.

As a statesman he is intimately conversant with the laws and constitution of his country, and familiarly acquainted with its various interests, foreign and domestic; as a civilian, well read in the laws of nations; as an erudite classical scholar, both in ancient and modern literature, and as an elegant writer, and a consummate orator, he may be said to rank with the first of his cotemporaries. He died in April, 1827.

HENRY LAURENS.

Henry Laurens, president of Congress, and a distinguished patriot, was born in Charleston, South Carolina, in the year 1724. The superintendence of his education was first given to Mr. Howe, and afterwards to Mr. Corbett; but of the nature of his studies, or the extent of his acquirements, we are not told. He was regularly bred to mercantile pursuits, and was remarkable through life for his peculiar observance of business. In whatever he was engaged, he was distinguished for his extraordinary punctuality. He rose early, and devoting the morning to the counting-house, he not unfrequently finished his concerns before others had left their beds. Industrious almost to an extreme himself, he demanded a corresponding attention and labour on the part of those in his employ.

In the year 1771, on the death of his amiable wife, he relinquished business, and visited Europe, principally for the purpose of superintending the education of his sons.

He took an early part in opposing the arbitrary claims of Great Britain, and was one of the thirty-nine native Americans, who endeavoured by their petition to prevent the British parliament from passing the Boston port bill.

Every exertion on the part of the colonies proving fruitless, he hastened home, with a determination to take part with his countrymen against Great Britain.

The circumstance of his leaving England at this important crisis, expressly to defend the cause of independence, served to confirm in the highest degree that unbounded confidence in his fidelity and patriotism, for which his friends, through the whole course of his career, had such an ample cause to entertain.

On his arrival in this country, no attentions were withheld which it was possible to bestow.

When the Provincial Congress of Carolina met in June, 1775, he was appointed its president, in which capacity, he drew up a form of association, to be signed by all the friends of liberty, which indicated a most determined spirit.

On the establishment of a regular constitution in South Carolina, in 1776, he was elected a member of Congress. On the resignation of President Hancock, he was appointed the president of that august body.

In 1780, he was appointed a minister plenipotentiary to Holland to solicit a loan, and to negotiate a treaty. On his passage to that country, he was captured by a British vessel, and sent to England. He was there imprisoned in the tower of London, on the 6th October, as a state prisoner, upon a charge of high treason. He was confined more than a year, and treated with great severity; being denied for the most part all intercourse with his friends, and forbidden the use of pen and ink.

Towards the close of the year 1781, his sufferings, which had by that time become well known, excited the utmost sympathy for himself, but kindled the warmest indignation against the authors of his cruel confinement. Every exertion to draw concessions from this inflexible patriot having proved more than useless, the ministry resolved upon his releasement. As soon as his discharge was known, he received from Congress a commission, appointing him one of their ministers for negotiating a peace with Great Britain.

In conjunction with Dr. Franklin, John Jay, and

John Adams, he signed the preliminaries of peace on the 30th November, 1782, and a short time after he returned to South Carolina. Although he could have commanded any office in the gift of his state, he declined every honour which was urged upon him by his countrymen, preferring to spend the remainder of his days in rural retirement and domestic enjoyment.

He expired on the 8th December, 1792. He directed his son to burn his body on the third day, as the sole condition of inheriting an estate of £60,000 sterling.

HORATIO GATES.

Horatio Gates, a major-general in the army of the United States, was born about the year 1728.

In early life he entered the British army, and laid the foundation of his future military excellence. He was with Braddock, and a companion in arms with Washington, at the defeat of his army, in 1755.

When peace was concluded, he purchased an estate in Virginia, where he resided until the commencement of the American war, in 1775, when he was appointed by Congress, at the recommendation of General Washington, adjutant-general, with the rank of brigadier-general.

From this period he took a very active part in most of the transactions of the war, and his abilities and good fortune placed him in a rank inferior only to the commander-in-chief, and above any other general.

In July, 1775, he accompanied Washington to Cambridge, when he went to take command of the army in that place.

In June, 1776, he was appointed to the command of the army of Canada. He was superseded by General Schuyler in May, 1777; but in August following, he took the place of this officer in the northern department. The success, which attended his arms in the

capture of Burgoyne, in October, filled America with joy. This event may be considered as deciding the war of the revolution, as from that period, the British cause began rapidly to decline. Congress passed a vote of thanks, and ordered a medal of gold to be presented by the president. After General Lincoln was taken prisoner, he was appointed on the 13th of June, 1780, to the command of the southern department. On the 16th of August, he was defeated by Cornwallis, at Camden. He was superseded on the 3d of December by General Greene, but was, in 1782, restored to his command.

After the peace he retired to his farm, in Berkely county, Virginia, where he remained until the year 1790, when he went to reside at New York, having first emancipated his slaves, and made such pecuniary provision for such as were not able to provide for themselves. On his arrival at New York, the freedom of the city was presented to him.

In 1800, he accepted a seat in the Legislature, but he retained it no longer than he conceived his services might be useful to the cause of liberty, which he never abandoned. He died, April 10, 1806, in the seventy-eighty year of his age. He was a scholar, well versed in history and the Latin classics.

HENRY KNOX.

Henry Knox, LL. D., a major-general in the army of the United States, was born at Boston, July 25, 1750. Among those of our country, who most zealously engaged in the cause of liberty, few sustained a rank more deservedly conspicuous, than General Knox. He was one of those heroes, of whom it may be truly said, that he lived for his country. The ardour of his youth, and the vigour of his manhood, were devotedly to acquiring its liberty and establishing its prosperity.

At the age of eighteen, he was selected by the young men of Boston to the command of an independent company; in this station, he exhibited those talents, which afterwards shone with lustre, in the most brilliant campaigns of an eight years' war.

In the early stages of British hostility, though not in commission, he was not an inactive spectator. At the battle of Bunker Hill he acted as a volunteer in reconnoitring the movements of the enemy.

Scarcely had we begun to feel the aggressions of the British arms, before it was perceived that we were destitute of artillery; and no resource presented itself, but the desperate expedient of procuring it from the Canadian frontier. At this crisis he generously offered his services to the commander-in-chief, to supply the army with ordnance from Canada, notwithstanding the obstacles and perils of the undertaking. Accordingly, in the winter of 1775, he commenced his operations, and in a few weeks, he had surmounted every difficulty and danger, and returned laden with ordnance and stores.

In consequence of this important service, he was appointed to the command of the artillery of which he had thus laid the foundation, in which command he continued with increasing reputation through the revolutionary war.

In the battles of Trenton and Princeton he gloriously signalized himself by his bravery and valour.

In the bloody fields of Germantown and Monmouth, he was no less distinguished for the discharge of the arduous duties of his command. In the front of the battle he was seen animating his soldiers, and pointing the thunder of their cannon. His skill and bravery were so conspicuous on the latter occasion, that he received the particular approbation of the commander-in-chief.

In every field of battle, where Washington fought, Knox was by his side. Honourable to himself as had been the career of his revolutionary services, new

laurels were reserved for him at the siege of Yorktown. To the successful result of this memorable siege, no officer contributed more essentially than the commander of the artillery. His animated exertions, his military skill, his cool and determined bravery in this triumphant struggle, received the unanimous approbation of Congress, and he was immediately created major-general, with the concurrence of the commander-in-chief, and of the whole army. Having contributed so essentially to the successful termination of the war, he was next selected as one of the commissioners to adjust the terms of peace. He was deputed to receive the surrender of the city of New York, and soon after appointed to the command of West Point.

It was here that he was employed in the delicate and arduous duty of disbanding the army, and inducing a soldiery, disposed to turbulence by their privations and sufferings, to retire to domestic life, and resume the peaceful character of citizens.

The great objects of the war being accomplished, and peace restored to our country, General Knox was, early under the confederation, appointed secretary of war by Congress, in which office he was confirmed by President Washington, after the establishment of the federal government.

Having filled this office for eleven years, he obtained the reluctant consent of President Washington to retire.

Retired from the theatre of active life, he still felt a deep interest in the prosperity of his country. He was called repeatedly to take a share in the government of the state, to which he had removed, and in the discharge of whose several duties, he exhibited great wisdom and experience as a legislator. In the full vigour of health, he suddenly died at Montpelier, [illegible] seat in Thomaston, Maine, on the 25th October, 18[illegible]

The great qualities of General Knox were not merel those of the hero and the statesman; with these wer combined those of the elegant scholar, and the accom-

plished gentleman. There have been those as brave and as learned, but rarely a union of such valour, with so much urbanity; a mind so great, yet so free from ostentation.

In his private virtues, he was no less the ornament of every circle in which he moved, as the amiable and enlightened companion, the generous friend, the man of feeling and benevolence. In consideration of his literary attainments, the president and trustees of Dartmouth college conferred on him the degree of doctor of law.

RICHARD MONTGOMERY.

Richard Montgomery, a major-general in the American army, was born about the year 1737. He possessed an excellent genius which was matured by a fine education.

Entering the army of Great Britain, he successfully fought her battles with Wolfe at Quebec, in 1759, and on the very spot where he was doomed to fall when fighting against her, under the banners of freedom. When our struggles with Great Britain commenced, he ardently espoused the cause of liberty, and was appointed by Congress to the command of the continental forces in the northern department.

In the fall of 1775, he marched into Canada, took forts Chamblee and St. John's, and on the 12th November he took Montreal. In December, he joined Arnold before Quebec, and on the 31st, made a general assault on the city. He bravely advanced at the head of his troops, but was killed at the onset. This event, no doubt, saved the city, and was the ultimate cause of preventing the whole province of Canada from falling into the hands of the Americans.

He was a man of great military talents, whose measures were taken with judgment, and executed with vigour.

By the direction of Congress, a monument of white marble, of the most beautiful simplicity, with emblematical devices, was executed by Mr. Cassiers, at Paris, and is erected to his memory in front of St. Paul's church, New York.

WILLIAM MOULTRIE.

William Moultrie, governor of South Carolina, and a major-general in the American war, was devoted to the service of his country from an early period of his life.

He was among the foremost at the commencement of the late revolution to assert the liberties of his country, and braved every danger to redress her wrongs. His manly firmness, intrepid zeal, and cheerful exposure of every thing which he possessed, added weight to his counsels, and induced others to join him.

In 1776, for his brave defence of Sullivan's Island, he received the unanimous thanks of Congress.

In 1779, he gained a victory over the British in the battle near Beaufort.

In 1780, he was second in command in Charleston during the siege of that place.

He was repeatedly chosen governor of that state, till the infirmities of age induced him to withdraw to the peaceful retreat of domestic life. He died at Charleston, September 27, 1805, in the seventy-sixth year of his age.

He published memoirs of the American revolution, so far as it related to North and South Carolina, and Georgia, two volumes, octavo, 1802.

JOSEPH WARREN.

Joseph Warren, a major-general in the American army, and a distinguished patriot, was born at Roxbury, Massachusetts, in the year 1741. At the age of fifteen he entered Harvard college, and received the honours of that seminary in 1759, and 1762. On leaving college he directed his attention to the study of medicine, and in a few years became one of the most eminent physicians in Boston. But he lived at a period, when greater objects claimed his attention, than those which related particularly to his profession. The calls of a distracted country were paramount to every consideration of his own interests; and he entered the vortex of politics, never to return to the peaceful course of professional labour.

The change in public opinion had been gradually preparing the minds of most men for a revolution. This was not openly avowed; amelioration of treatment for the present, and assurances of kindness in future, were all that the colonies asked from Great Britain; but these they did not receive.

The mother country mistook the spirit of her children, and used threats when kindness would have been the best policy. When Britain declared her right to direct, govern, and tax us in any form, and at all times, the colonies reasoned, remonstrated, and entreated for a while; and when these means did not answer, they defied and resisted. The political writers of the province had been active and busy, but they were generally screened by fictitious names, or sent their productions anonymously into the world; but the time had arrived when speakers of nerve and boldness were wanted to raise their voices against oppression in every shape. Warren possessed first-rate qualities for an orator, and had early declared in the strongest terms his political sentiments, which were somewhat in advance of public opinion; for he held

as tyranny all taxation, which could be imposed by the British parliament upon the colonies.

His first object was to enlighten the people; and then he felt sure of engaging their feelings in the general cause. He knew when once they began, it would be impossible to tread back—independence only would satisfy the country.

He embraced every opportunity to assert and defend the most bold and undisguised principles of liberty, and defying in their very teeth the agents of the crown.

Twice he was elected to deliver the oration on the 5th of March, in commemoration of the *massacre;* and his orations are among the most distinguished productions by that splendid list of speakers who addressed their fellow-citizens on this subject, so interesting to them all. These occasions gave the orators a fine field for remark, and a fair opportunity for effect. The great orators of antiquity in their speeches attempted only to rouse the people to retain what they possessed. Invective, entreaty, and pride had their effect in assisting these mighty masters to influence the people. They were ashamed to lose what their fathers left them, won by their blood, and so long preserved by their wisdom, their virtues, and their courage. Our statesmen had a harder task to perform, for they were compelled to call on the people to gain what they had never enjoyed—an independent rank and standing among the nations of the world.

From the year 1768, he was a principal member of a secret meeting or caucus in Boston, which had great influence on the concerns of the country. With all his boldness, and decision, and zeal, he was circumspect and wise.

His next oration was delivered March 6, 1775. It was at his own solicitation that he was appointed to this duty a second time. This fact is illustrative of his character, and worthy of remembrance.

Some of the British officers of the army then in Boston, had publicly declared that it should be at the

price of the life of any man to speak of the event of March 5, 1770, on that anniversary. Warren's soul took fire at such a threat, so openly made, and he wished for the hour of braving it. The day came, and the weather was remarkably fine. The old south meeting-house was crowded at an early hour. The British officers occupied the isles, the flight of steps to the pulpit, and several of them were in it. The orator, with the assistance of his friends, made his entrance at the pulpit window by a ladder. The officers seeing his coolness and intrepidity, made way for him to advance and address the audience. An awful stillness preceded his exordium. Each man felt the palpitations of his own heart, and saw the pale but determined face of his neighbour. The speaker began his oration in a firm tone of voice, and proceeded with great energy and pathos.

The scene was sublime; a patriot in whom the flush of youth, and the grace and dignity of manhood were combined, stood armed in the sanctuary of God, to animate and encourage the sons of liberty, and to hurl defiance at their oppressors.

Such another hour has seldom happened in the history of man, and is not surpassed in the records of nations.

The thunders of Demosthenes rolled at a distance from Philip and his host—and Tully poured the fiercest torrent of his invective when Catiline was at a distance, and his dagger no longer to be feared; but Warren's speech was made to proud oppressors resting on their arms, whose errand it was to overawe, and whose business it was to fight.

If the deed of Brutus deserved to be commemorated by history, poetry, painting, and sculpture—should not this instance of patriotism and bravery be held in everlasting remembrance? If he

> "That struck the foremost man of all this world,"

was hailed as the first of freemen, what honours are

not due him, who undismayed bearded the British lion, to show the world what his countrymen dared to do in the cause of liberty? If the statue of Brutus was placed among those of the gods, who were the preservers of Roman freedom, should not that of Warren fill a lofty niche in the temple reared to perpetuate the remembrance of our birth as a nation?

It was he, who on the evening before the battle of Lexington obtained information of the intended expedition against Concord, and at 10 o'clock at night despatched an express to Messrs. Hancock and Adams, who were at Lexington, to warn them of their danger.

On the next day he hastened to the field of action, in the full ardour of his soul, and shared the dangers of the day. The people were delighted with his bravery, and already considered him as a leader, whose gallantry they were to admire, and in whose talents they were to confide.

On the 14th, June, 1775, the provincial Congress of Massachusetts appointed him a major-general of their forces. He was at this time president of the provincial Congress, having been elected the preceding year a member from the town of Boston. In this body he discovered his extraordinary powers of mind, and his peculiar fitness for responsible offices at such a juncture.

On the 18th, when the intrenchments were made at Bunker's Hill, he, to encourage the men within the lines, went down from Cambridge, and acted as a volunteer. Just as the retreat commenced, a ball struck him on the head, and he died in the trenches, aged thirty-five years. He was the first victim of rank that fell in the struggle with Great Britain. In the requiem over those who have fallen in the cause of their country, which

"Time with his own eternal lips shall sing,"

the praises of Warren shall be distinctly heard.

His mind was vigorous, his disposition humane,

and his manners affable and engaging. In his integrity and patriotism entire confidence was placed. To the most undaunted bravery he added the virtues of domestic life, the eloquence of an accomplished orator, and the wisdom of an able statesman.

ZEBULON MONTGOMERY PIKE.

Zebulon Montgomery Pike, a brigadier-general in the army of the United States, was born at Lamberton, New Jersey, on the 5th of January, 1779.

By his own perseverance and application, he became skilled in the mathematical and astronomical sciences, and a proficient in the Latin, French, and Spanish languages.

In 1805, a new career of honourable destination was opened to his active and aspiring mind.

The government of the United States having purchased Louisiana, determined upon ascertaining its geographical boundary; its soil and natural productions; the course of its rivers and their fitness for the purpose of navigation, and other uses of civilized life; and also to gain particular information of the number, character, and power of the tribes of Indians who inhabited this territory.

With these views, President Jefferson appointed Captains Lewis and Clark to explore the unknown sources of the Missouri, and Captain Pike, that of the Mississippi.

In August following, Captain Pike embarked at St. Louis on this interesting and perilous expedition, and did not return to the seat of government until August, 1807.

Before two months had expired, Captain Pike was selected for a second perilous journey of hardship and adventure. The principal purpose of this expedition was like that of the former, to explore the interior of Louisiana, especially the tributary streams of the

Mississippi, Arkansas, and Red River, and thus to acquire such geographical information, as might enable government to enter into definitive arrangements for a boundary line between our newly acquired territory and North Mexico.

Upon his return from this last expedition, he received the thanks of the government. He was shortly afterwards appointed major, and in 1810, a colonel of infantry.

During the interval of his military duties, he published a narrative of his two expeditions, accompanied by several valuable original maps and charts.

In 1813, he was appointed a brigadier-general, and was selected to command the American forces in an expedition against York, the capital of Upper Canada. On the 27th April he arrived before York at the head of his troops, and attacked the enemy's works in person. The fire of the enemy was soon silenced, and at the moment that a flag of surrender was expected, a terrible explosion took place from the British magazine, which had previously been prepared for this purpose. An immense quanity of large stones were thrown in every direction, one of which struck the general, the wound from which proved mortal after lingering a few hours. In the mean while, the British standard was brought to him, which he made a sign to have placed under his head, and then expired without a groan!

JOHN STARK.

John Stark, a brigadier-general in the American army during the revolutionary war, was born at Londonderry, New Hampshire, on the 17th August, 1728.

When at the age of twenty-one years, he was, while on a hunting excursion, surprised and captured by the Indians, and remained four months a prisoner in their hands. He was captain of a company of rangers in

the provincial service during the French war of 1755, and was with Lord Howe when he was killed in storming the French lines at Ticonderoga, in July, 1758. At the close of that war, he retired with the reputation of a brave and vigilant officer. When the report of Lexington battle reached him, he was engaged at work in his sawmill. Fired with indignation and a martial spirit, he immediately seized his musket, and with a band of heroes proceeded to Cambridge, and the morning after his arrival, he received a colonel's commission.

On the memorable 17th June, 1775, at Breed's Hill, Colonel Stark, at the head of his division, poured on the enemy that deadly fire, which compelled the British columns twice to retreat. During the whole of this dreadful conflict, Colonel Stark evinced that consummate bravery and intrepid zeal, which entitle his name to honour and perpetual remembrance in the pages of our history. We next find him at Trenton, in December, 1776, where he shared largely in the honours of that ever memorable battle. But Colonel Stark reached the climax of his fame, when in the darkest and most desponding periods of the revolution he achieved a glorious victory over the enemy at Bennington, of twice the force under his command. In this victory he took upwards of seven hundred prisoners, besides four brass fieldpieces. Congress, on the 4th October, 1777, in consideration of his important services, promoted him to the rank of brigadier-general in the army of the United States. General Stark volunteered his services, under General Gates at Saratoga, and assisted in the council which stipulated the surrender of General Burgoyne; nor did he relinquish his valuable services till he could greet his native country as an independent empire.

He lived to the advanced age of ninety-three years, and died May 8, 1822.

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

Philip Schuyler, a major-general in the revolutionary war, received his appointment from Congress, June 19, 1775. He was directed to proceed immediately from New York to Ticonderoga, to secure the lakes, and to make preparations for entering Canada. Being taken sick in September, the command devolved upon Montgomery. On his recovery he devoted himself zealously to the management of the affairs in the northern department. The superintendence of the Indian concerns claimed much of his attention.

On the approach of Burgoyne, 1777, he made every exertion to obstruct his progress; but the evacuation of Ticonderoga, by St. Clair, occasioning unreasonable jealousies in regard to Schuyler in New England, he was superseded by Gates in August, and Congress directed an inquiry to be made into his conduct. It was a matter of extreme chagrin to him to be recalled at the moment when he was about to take ground and face the enemy. He afterwards, though not in the regular service, rendered important services to his country in the military transactions of New York. He was a member of the old Congress, and when the present government of the United States commenced its operations in 1789, he was appointed with Rufus King a senator from his native state.

In 1797, he was again appointed a senator in the place of Aaron Burr. He died at Albany, November 18, 1804, in the seventy-third year of his age.

Distinguished by strength of intellect and upright intentions, he was wise in the contrivance, and enterprising and persevering in the execution of plans of public utility. In private life he was dignified, but courteous, a pleasing and instructive companion, affectionate in his domestic relations, and just in all his dealings.

BENJAMIN LINCOLN.

Benjamin Lincoln, a major-general in the American army, was born in Hingham, Massachusetts, January 23d, 1733.

Having at an early period espoused the cause of his country as a firm and determined whig, he was elected a member of the provincial Congress, and one of the secretaries of that body, and also a member of the committee of correspondence.

In 1776, he was appointed by the council of Massachusetts a brigadier, and soon after a major-general of the militia.

In October, he marched with a body of militia and joined the main army at New York. In February, 1777, Congress appointed him a major-general in the regular service.

In July, 1777, General Washington selected him to join the northern army under the command of General Gates, to oppose the advance of General Burgoyne.

During the sanguinary conflict on the 7th of October, he received a wound, which badly fractured his leg, and was obliged to be taken off the field. He was not enabled to join the army, until the following August, when he was joyfully received by General Washington, who well knew how to appreciate his merit. It was from a development of his estimable character as a man, and his talent as a military commander, that he was designated by Congress for the arduous duties of the chief command in the southern department, under innumerable embarrassments.

On his arrival at Charleston, December, 1778, he found that he had to form an army, to provide supplies, and to arrange the various departments, that he might be able to cope with an enemy consisting of experienced officers and veteran troops.

On the 19th of June, 1779, he attacked the enemy, who were strongly posted at Stone Ferry, and after a hard fought action, he was obliged to retire.

The next event of importance which occurred, was the bold assault on Savannah, in conjunction with Count D'Estaing, and which proved unsuccessful. He then repaired to Charleston, and endeavoured to put that city in a posture of defence.

In March, 1780, Sir Henry Clinton appeared before that place, with a force not short of 9000 men. They commenced a heavy cannonade, and continued to besiege it, until the 12th May, when he was compelled to surrender. Notwithstanding fortune frowned on him, in most of his bold and daring enterprises, he still retained his popularity, and the confidence of the army, and was considered as a most zealous patriot, and the bravest of soldiers.

"Great praise is due to General Lincoln," says Dr. Ramsay, "for his judicious and spirited conduct in baffling for three months, the greatly superior force of Sir Henry Clinton and Admiral Arbuthnot. Though Charleston and the southern army were lost, yet by their long protracted defence, the British plans were not only retarded but deranged, and North Carolina was saved for the remainder of the year 1780."

In the campaign of 1781, General Lincoln commanded a division under General Washington, and at the siege of Yorktown he had his full share of the honour of that brilliant and auspicious event. The articles of capitulation stipulated for the same honour in favour of the surrendering army, as had been granted to the garrison of Charleston. He was appointed to conduct them to the field where their arms were deposited, and receive the customary submission.

In October, 1781, he was chosen by Congress secretary at war, retaining his rank in the army. In this office he continued till October, 1783, when he resigned, and received a vote of thanks from Congress, for his fidelity and diligence in discharging the important trust.

He now retired to his farm. In 1786–7, he was appointed to the command of the troops, which suppressed the insurrection under Shays and Day.

In May, 1787, he was elected lieutenant-governor of the state of Massachusetts. He was a member of the convention for ratifying the federal constitution, and in the summer of 1789, he received from President Washington, the appointment of collector of the port of Boston. This office he sustained till being admonished by the increasing infirmities of his age, he requested permission to resign, about two years before his death. He closed his honourable and use ful life, on the 9th of May, 1810.

General Lincoln received from the university of Cambridge, the honorary degree of master of arts. He was one of the first members of the American academy of arts and sciences, and a member of the Massachusetts historical society. He was also president of the society of Cincinnati, from its first organization to the day of his decease.

WILLIAM BAINBRIDGE.

William Bainbridge, a commodore in the United States navy, was born at Princeton, New Jersey, on the 7th May, 1774. At the age of sixteen he was placed in a counting-house in New York; but soon after he removed to Philadelphia, and entered into the merchant service. From the year 1793 to 1798, he commanded merchant ships in the trade from Philadelphia to Europe. In July, 1798, he was appointed to the command of the United States schooner Retaliation, of fourteen guns, with a commission as lieutenant and commander in the navy. In 1799, he received a commission of master-commandant, and sailed in the brig Norfolk, of eighteen guns, on a second cruise against the French. In 1800 he received a captain's commission, and was appointed to the command of the frigate George Washington, in which he afterwards sailed for the Mediterranean. On his return, in 1801, he was transferred to the frigate Essex, and appointed

to accompany the squadron which was sent against Tripoli. He returned to New York in 1802, and the next year was appointed to the command of the Philadelphia frigate. In July following, he sailed in her for the Mediterranean, and joined the squadron under Commodore Preble. In August, he captured two Tripolitan cruisers, and then proceeded to blockade the harbour of Tripoli. On the 31st of October, he gave chase to an armed ship, and finding he could not cut her out from the harbour, gave up the pursuit and hauled northward; but unfortunately ran upon rocks about four miles and a half from the town. The Tripolitan gunboats immediately attacked her, and after sustaining the enemy's fire between five and six hours, he was obliged to surrender the ship. The officers and crew were immediately put in confinement, nor were they released until the peace of the 3d of June, 1805.

Captain Bainbridge reached the United States in the autumn following, and the reception which he met from his country was such as to satisfy completely the feelings of a meritorious but unfortunate officer.

In 1806, he took command of the naval station at New York. In 1808, he was appointed to take command of the Portland station.

In 1809, having superintended the repairing of the frigate President at Washington, he took command of her, and cruised on our coast till the next spring, when he obtained a furlough, and permission from the navy department to engage in the merchant service.

Having returned from his mercantile pursuits, in February, 1812, he was appointed to the command of the navy yard at Charlestown, Massachusetts. On the declaration of war against Great Britain, he was appointed to command the frigate Constellation; but on the arrival at Boston of Captain Hull, after his victory over the British frigate Guerriere, Commodore Bainbridge was permitted to take command of the Constitution. In a few weeks he sailed on a cruise

to the East Indies. In running down the coast of Brazil, on the 29th December, he discovered a strange ship, and immediately made sail to meet her. On approaching her, it proved to be the British frigate Java. Commodore Bainbridge immediately closed with the enemy, and in less than one hour and fifty minutes he compelled her to surrender. The decayed state of the Constitution, and other circumstances, combining to interfere with the original plan of the cruise, he afterwards returned to the United States. The arrangement, however, of the differences of the United States with Great Britain, did not let him remain long in the inaction of peace. Having superintended the building of the Independence, a ship of seventy-four guns, he had the honour of waving his flag on board the first line-of-battle ship belonging to the United States that ever floated. He was now ordered to form a junction with Commodore Decatur, to cruise against the Barbary powers, who had shown a disposition to plunder our commerce. In company with his own squadron, he arrived before the harbour of Carthagena, where he learned that Commodore Decatur had concluded a peace with the regency of Algiers. He now, according to his instructions presented himself before Tripoli, where he also had the mortification to learn that Commodore Decatur had shorn him of his expected laurels, by a previous visit. He now effected a junction with Commodore Decatur's squadron, and sailed for the United States, and arrived at Newport, Rhode Island, on the 15th November, 1815.

Commodore Bainbridge, after the war, sailed twice to the Mediterranean with squadrons for the protection of our commerce in that sea. He was the first to recommend the establishment of a board of navy commissioners; and he was for three years president of this board. He died July 28th, 1833, in the sixtieth year of his age.

STEPHEN DECATUR.

Stephen Decatur, commodore in the navy of the United States, was born on the 5th January, 1779, on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, whither his parents had retired, whilst the British were in possession of Philadelphia.

In March, 1798, he received a midshipman's warrant, and shortly after was promoted to a lieutenancy.

He then sailed with Commodore Dale's squadron to the Mediterranean. On his return to the United States, he was promoted to the command of the Argus, and was ordered to join Commodore Preble's squadron, then in the Mediterranean. On his arrival there, he was transferred to the schooner Enterprise, and proceeded to Syracuse, where he learned the fate of the frigate Philadelphia. He immediately proposed to Commodore Preble, to recapture, or destroy her. The consent of the commodore having been obtained, he sailed from Syracuse in the ketch Intrepid, manned with seventy men; accompanied by the Syren, lieutenant Stewart, who was to aid with his boats, and to receive the ketch, in case it should be found expedient to use her as a fire-ship. On the 8th February, he arrived before Tripoli, but the Syren in consequence of a change of wind, was thrown six miles off from the Intrepid. Notwithstanding this misfortune, Lieutenant Decatur, determined not to await a junction, lest a delay might be fatal to the enterprise, and entered the harbour of Tripoli within a half gunshot of the bashaw's castle, and of the principal batteries, beside the enemy's cruisers, who lay around the frigate—such were the imminent perils which his daring courage so nobly surmounted. About 11 o'clock at night, he boarded the frigate Philadelphia, and in a few minutes gained entire possession. The enemy had by this time opened his batteries upon him, and a number of launches were seen rowing towards him.

He then ordered the ship to be set on fire, and such was the rapidity of the flames, that it was with the utmost difficulty they preserved the ketch. At this critical moment a breeze sprung up, blowing directly out of the harbour, which in a few minutes carried him beyond the reach of the enemy's guns, and they made good their retreat without the loss of a single man, and with but four wounded.

For this gallant and romantic achievement he was made post-captain, with the consent of the officers over whose heads he was raised.

In the ensuing spring Commodore Preble made an attack upon Tripoli, when one of the divisions were commanded by Captain Decatur. In this action, he acted with undaunted bravery. He took two of the enemy's vessels, the commander of one of which had treacherously shot his brother, and while making for the harbour, Captain Decatur pursued him and avenged the death of his brother so basely murdered; and afterwards succeeded in getting with both of his prizes to the squadron.

The next day, he received the highest commendation, in a general order, from Commodore Preble.

Captain Decatur was now transferred to the command of the frigate Congress, and returned home in her when peace was concluded with Tripoli.

When the frigate United States was put in commission, Captain Decatur took command of her, previous to which, he had the command of the southern squadron.

The late war with Great Britain gave him another opportunity of adding to the laurels he had won. On the 25th October, 1812, in latitude 29, N., longitude 29, 30, W., he fell in with his majesty's ship Macedonian, mounting forty-nine guns. After an action of one hour and a half, the enemy surrendered, with a loss of thirty-six killed, and sixty-eight wounded—while the loss of the Americans was only four killed, and seven wounded. He now carried his prize into

Newport, Rhode Island, from thence she afterwards proceeded to New York, and was refitted.

In May, 1813, after an ineffectual attempt to pass the enemy, to go to sea, Commodore Decatur was obliged to make New London harbour, where he was pursued by the enemy's blockading squadron, and was closely invested by them.

In January, 1815, Commodore Decatur was appointed to the command of the ship President. On the 14th, he embraced the only possible opportunity to escape the enemy's squadron, and go to sea. On the morning of the 15th, he discovered the enemy nearly ahead, one of which, the Endymion frigate, as it afterwards appeared, commenced a fire on the President, which was so spiritedly returned, that in less than two hours she was so crippled, and favoured by a breeze, the President with all sail set went out of the action, and had every probability of escaping, had thick weather set in, of which there was every appearance. On the contrary it continued fine, and enabled three other of the enemy's ships in less than two hours afterwards to approach within half gunshot:—being now assailed by so superior a force, without any probability of escape, Commodore Decatur being influenced by motives of humanity, ordered a signal of surrender to be made. He was immediately taken possession of by the Pomone and Tenedos, each of thirty-eight guns, and Majestic razee of sixty-two guns, and carried into Bermuda.

On the 22d February, he arrived at New London, Connecticut.

In the summer of 1815, Commodore Decatur was despatched with a squadron to the Mediterranean, to protect the American commerce, and to reduce the regency of Algiers to a pacific disposition. He arrived off Cape de Gatt on the 17th June, where he had the good fortune to fall in with the Algerine admiral, and after an action of twenty-five minutes captured his ship, mounting forty-nine guns. On the 19th, after a chase of three hours, he captured an Al-

gerine brig of twenty-two guns. On the 29th June, he arrived before Algiers, and concluded a treaty of peace on advantageous terms. After having visited the other Barbary ports of Tunis and Tripoli, he returned to the United States in November following. President Madison soon after appointed him a member of the board of commissioners at Washington, for the navy of the United States. It was while in the discharge of the duties of this board, that he was challenged to single combat, with pistols, by Commodore James Barron, and was mortally wounded at the first fire. He expired on the night of the 22d March, 1820.

Before he expired, he openly opposed the principle of duelling, and threw himself upon the mercy of that God whose laws he had violated. Commodore Decatur was pleasing in his person, of an intelligent and interesting countenance. His manners were unassuming and engaging, uniting the polish of the gentleman with the frank simplicity of a sailor.

As a naval officer, he has never been surpassed. The most minute branches of naval science never escaped his attention, and the most abstruse never exceeded his comprehension. The various manœuvrings of a ship or squadron, were as familiar with him, as the evolutions of an army to the scientific military officer. Whether encountering the enemy in the humble galley, or breasting the shock of battle in the majestic ship, he bore into action, as if the genius of victory hovered over him, and gave him conquest in anticipation. When in the midst of an engagement, his own personal safety never occupied a thought. His fearless soul was engrossed with the safety of his crew and his ship, and the destruction of the enemy. But the moment the battle-fray was ended, he was changed into a ministering spirit of mercy. Over his slain enemy, he dropped a tear—to a wounded one, he imparted consolation—he mingled his sighs with the groans of the dying, and rendered every honour to the gallant dead.

OLIVER HAZARD PERRY.

Oliver Hazard Perry, the "Hero of Lake Erie," was born at Newport, Rhode Island, in August, 1785. At the age of fourteen he entered the navy of the United States, and shortly after he accompanied the squadron to the Mediterranean, in which he served during the Tripoline war.

At the commencement of the late war with Great Britain, he was appointed to the command of the flotilla of gun-boats, stationed in the harbour of New York, with the rank of master-commandant.

In 1813, he was appointed to the command of the squadron on Lake Erie. As soon as he had equipped and manned his vessels, he set sail from the port of Erie in pursuit of the British fleet, on the 8th of August. Nothing of moment, however, happened until the 10th September, when he discovered the enemy at sunrise, and immediately made for them. The action commenced about ten o'clock, and lasted for three hours, when the whole British squadron struck their colours. Never was a victory more decisive and complete. The captured squadron had more guns and more men. The enemy's loss in killed and wounded amounted to one hundred and sixty, the Americans to one hundred and twenty-three. Soon after the victory on Lake Erie, the thanks of Congress were voted to the commodore, his officers, seamen, and marines; and medals were presented to him and his officers.

In 1815, Commodore Perry was appointed to the command of the Java frigate, and sailed with Commodore Decatur's squadron to the Mediterranean, and participated in the negotiation of an honourable peace with the Algerines.

In June, 1819, Commodore Perry sailed from the Chesapeake bay in the United States ship John Adams, for the West Indies and a cruise, with sealed orders.

In September, 1820, the melancholy intelligence of his death reached the United States, on which occasion the secretary of the navy ordered the usual tribute of respect to be paid to the memory of this illustrious officer.

He died at Port Spain, on the 23d August, 1820.

NICHOLAS BIDDLE.

Nicholas Biddle, captain in the navy of the United States, was born in the city of Philadelphia, September 10, 1750.

Among the brave men who perished in the glorious struggle for the independence of America, there are none more entitled to a place in the biographic annals of this country.

His services, and the high expectations raised by his military genius and gallantry, have left a strong impression of his merit, and a profound regret that his early fate should have disappointed so soon the hopes of his country.

Very early in life he manifested his partiality for the sea, and previous to the year 1770, had made several voyages.

He afterwards went to England, with an intention of entering the British navy, and did for some time act in the capacity of a midshipman; but his ardent mind, however, could not rest satisfied with his situation, and he afterwards embarked in the expedition fitted out at the request of the Royal Society, to ascertain how far navigation was practicable towards the north pole; to advance the discovery of the north-west passage into the south seas; and to make such astronomical observations as might prove serviceable to navigation. Impelled by the same bold and enterprising spirit, young Horatio, afterwards Lord Nelson, had solicited and obtained permission to enter on board the same vessel, and both acted in the capacity of

cockswains, a station always assigned to the most active and trusty seamen. These intrepid navigators penetrated as far as the latitude of 81° 39′. On his return, the commencement of the revolution gave a new turn to his pursuits, and he repaired without delay, to the standard of his country. Soon after his arrival at Philadelphia, he was appointed to the command of the Andrew Doria, a brig of fourteen guns, and sailed in the expedition under Commodore Hopkins, against New Providence. Immediately after taking this post, he was ordered to cruise off the banks of Newfoundland, and was very active in capturing the enemy's vessels. While he was thus indefatigably engaged in weakening the enemy's power and advancing his country's interest, he was disinterested and generous in all that related to his private advantage. The brave and worthy opponent, whom the chance of war had thrown in his power, found in him a patron and friend, who on more than one occasion was known to restore to the vanquished the fruits of victory. In the latter end of the year 1776, he was appointed to the command of the Randolph, a frigate of thirty-two guns. He sailed from Philadelphia in February, 1777, and soon after he captured an English ship of twenty guns, and three sail of merchantmen, and proceeded to Charleston with his prizes.

He immediately refitted, and was joined by other vessels, and sailed for the West India seas. On the night of the 7th of March, 1778, he fell in with the British ship Yarmouth, of sixty-four guns, and engaged her. Shortly after the action commenced, he received a severe wound and fell. He soon, however, ordered a chair to be brought, and being carried forward, encouraged the crew. The fire of the Randolph was constant and well directed, and appeared, while the battle lasted, to be in a continual blaze. In about twenty minutes after the action began, and while the surgeon was examining his wounds on the quarter deck, the Randolph blew up. The number of persons

on board the Randolph was three hundred and fifteen, all of whom perished, except four men, who were tossed about for four days on a piece of the wreck, before they were discovered and taken up.

Thus prematurely fell, at the age of twenty-seven, as gallant an officer as any country ever boasted of. In the short career which Providence allowed to him, he displayed all those qualities which constitute a brave commander. Consummately skilled in his profession, no danger nor unexpected event could shake his firmness or disturb his presence of mind. He was a sincere Christian, and his religious impressions had a decided and powerful influence upon his conduct. His temper was uniformly cheerful, and his conversation sprightly and entertaining.

MERIWETHER LEWIS.

Meriwether Lewis, governor of Louisiana, was born in Albemarle county, Virginia, August 18, 1774, and from infancy was always distinguished for boldness and enterprise.

At the age of twenty-three he received the appointment of captain in the regular army, and in the year 1792, he was selected by President Jefferson, in conjunction with Mr. Michaux, to explore the country of the Missouri; unfortunately, however, the expedition was abandoned by the recall of Mr. Michaux.

In 1803, Congress, at the recommendation of President Jefferson, voted a sum of money for exploring the Missouri to its source, to cross the highlands, and follow the best water communication which offered itself from thence to the Pacific Ocean.

Captain Lewis, who was at this time intimately known to President Jefferson, for courage and perseverance in whatever he undertook, for an honest, liberal, and sound understanding, and an intimate knowledge of the Indian character, their customs, and

principles, and for a fidelity to truth so scrupulous, that whatever he should report would be as certain as if seen by himself, he did not hesitate to confide the enterprise to him as one every way qualified to conduct it. At his request, he was accompanied by Captain Clark, in case of accident to himself, that he might direct the further prosecution of the enterprise.

A draught of instructions having been prepared, he left the city of Washington, July 5, 1803, and proceeded on the expedition, and did not return to Washington before the 3d of February, 1807. Congress, in consideration of his services, granted to him and his followers a donation of a large tract of land.

He was, soon after, appointed governor of Louisiana. He died September 20, 1809.

An account of his expedition has been published in two volumes octavo.

INCREASE MATHER.

Increase Mather, D. D., president of Harvard college, was born at Dorchester, Massachusetts, June 21, 1639. He was graduated at the college, of which he afterwards became president, in 1656. After a period of four years, which he passed in travelling in England and Ireland, he returned to America. Having previously commenced the study of divinity, on his return, he was invited to preach at North church, in Boston, and was ordained pastor of that church in 1664.

In 1683, when king Charles II. expressed his wish that the charter of Massachusetts might be resigned into his hands, Dr. Mather zealously opposed a compliance with his majesty's pleasure, and used all his influence to persuade the people not to surrender their charter, and published his reasons. In 1688, he sailed for England as agent of the province, to procure a redress of grievances. After several years of im-

portant services, he returned with a new charter, May 14, 1692. During the witchcraft delusion, he opposed the violent measures which were adopted.

He wrote a book to prove that the devil might appear in the shape of an innocent man, by means of which a number of persons, convicted of witchcraft, escaped the execution of the sentence. After the death of Mr. Oakes, in 1681, the care of Harvard college devolved upon him, and over which he presided until September 6, 1701, when he resigned in consequence of an act of the general court, requiring the president to reside at Cambridge. He was unwilling to leave his church, though his son, Dr. Cotton Mather, had been settled as his colleague for several years.

He was called the father of the New England clergy, and his name and character were held in high veneration, not only by those who knew him, but by succeeding generations.

After a long life of benevolent exertion, he died in Boston, August 23, 1723, in the eighty-fifth year of his age.

He was a man of great learning, and of extensive influence. Sixteen hours every day were commonly spent in his study. Soon after his return from England, he procured an act, authorizing the college to create bachelors and doctors of theology; which power was not given by its former charter. As a president, he was careful not only to give the students direction in their literary pursuits, but also impart to them with the affection of a parent, the importance of renouncing sin, and embracing the gospel of Christ. Such was his benevolence, that he devoted a tenth part of all his income to charitable purposes.

His theological and philosophical publications amount to the number of eighty-five. Among which are the following: "History of the War with the Indians," 1676; "Cometographia, or a Discourse concerning Comets," 1683; "The Doctrine of Divine

Providence," 1684; "De Successu Evangelii upud Indos," 1688; "On the future Conversion of the Jews, confuting Dr. Lightfoot and Mr. Baxter, 1709; "Diatribe de Signo Filii Hominis, et de secundo Messiæ adventu;" and "Elijah's Mantle," 1722.

COTTON MATHER.

Cotton Mather, D. D., F. R. S., an eminent divine and philosopher, was born in Boston, February 12, 1663. He was distinguished for early piety, and at the age of fourteen, he strictly kept days of secret fasting and prayer. At the age of fifteen he graduated at Harvard college, having made uncommon proficiency in his studies. At this early period of his life he drew up systems of the sciences, and wrote remarks upon the books which he read, and thus matured his understanding. At the age of seventeen he approached the Lord's table, with affectionate reliance upon Jesus Christ for salvation. Having been occupied for some time in the study of theology, he was ordained minister of the North church in Boston, as colleague with his father, Dr. Increase Mather, May 13, 1684. Here he passed his days, unwearied and unceasing in his exertions to promote the glory of his Maker, and the highest welfare of his brethren. He died in the assurance of Christian faith, February 13, 1728, aged sixty-five years.

Dr. Mather was a man of unequalled industry, of vast learning, of unfeigned piety, and of most disinterested and expansive benevolence. He was also distinguished for his credulity and his pedantry. No person in America had so large a library, or had read so many books, or retained so much of what he read. So precious did he consider time, that to prevent visits of unnecessary length, he wrote over his study-door in capital letters, "be short." His social talents and his various knowledge, rendered his conversation in-

eresting and instructive. Every morning he usually read a chapter of the Old Testament in Hebrew, and another in the French, and a chapter of the New Testament in Greek. Besides the French, he understood also the Spanish and Iroquois, and in these languages he published treatises.

He was a most voluminous writer; his works amount to three hundred and eighty-two. As he published his works of piety, he put them into the hands of persons to whom he thought they would be useful; and he received the benedictions of many dying believers, who spoke of his labours as the means of their salvation.

Among the works best known, are his "Magnalia Christi Americana," two volumes octavo, new edition. "Essays to do Good." Dr. Franklin ascribed all his usefulness in the world to his reading this book in early life. It has been reprinted in England and America a number of times. "Christian Philosopher," 1721; "Life of Increase Mather;" "Ratio disciplinæ Fratrum," Nov. ——— Anglorum;" "Biblia Americana." This learned work, which it was once proposed to publish in three folio volumes, is now in the library of the Massachusetts historical society.

His literary distinctions were chiefly from abroad. The university of Glasgow presented him with a diploma of doctor of divinity; and his name is on the list of the fellows of the royal society in London.

DANIEL BOONE.

Daniel Boone, the first settler of the state of Kentucky, was born in Berks county, Pennsylvania, about the year 1730. At the age of eighteen, he left his native place, and settled in the state of North Carolina. In company with five other individuals, he left that province in 1769, and journeyed as far as the Kentucky river, with a view of settling near it. He

settled within seventy-five miles of the present town of Frankfort, where he built a stockade fort, a precaution absolutely necessary, to defend himself from the attack of the native Indians. This fort was afterwards called fort Boonsborough; and thus was formed the first settlement of the state of Kentucky.

In the year 1775, he conducted his wife and daughters to his new establishment, and was soon after joined by other families. At first he had to contend with a savage foe, and after several bloody rencontres, in one of which he was taken prisoner; and after enduring sufferings and hardships, which his courage and constancy surmounted, till he had an opportunity of making peace with his enemies. From this time until the year 1799, he spent his life in agricultural pursuits, and served occasionally his countrymen in the Legislature of Virginia.

Mr. Boone was not, however, to end his days amid the advantages of social life. After his courage and constancy, under the severest trials; after his long and unremitting labours, in perfecting his infant settlement; after rearing and providing for a numerous family, the prop of his old age, and the pride of his hoary years, which now entitled him to a civic crown, and to the gratitude of a generous people—he suddenly finds that he is possessed of nothing; that his eyes must be closed without a home, and that he must be an outcast in his gray hairs. His heart is torn, his feelings are lacerated by the chicanery of the law, which deprives him of the land of which he was the first to put a spade in, his goods sold: cut to the soul, with a wounded spirit, he still showed himself an extraordinary and eccentric man. He left for ever the state, in which he had been the first to introduce a civilized population—where he had so boldly maintained himself against external attacks, and shown himself an industrious and exemplary citizen; where he found no white man when he sat himself down amid the ancient woods, and left behind half a million.

He forsook it for ever; no entreaty could keep him within its bounds. Man, from whom he had deserved every thing, had persecuted and robbed him of all. He bade his friends and his family adieu for ever. He took with him his rifle and a few necessaries, and crossing the Ohio, pursued his way into the unknown and immense country of the Missouri, where the monstrous mammoth is even now supposed to be in existence. In 1800 he discovered the Boone's lick country, which now forms one of the best settlements of that state.

On the banks of the Grand Osage, in company with his son, he reared his rude log hut—around which he planted a few esculent vegetables—and his principal food, he obtained by hunting. An exploring traveller, sometimes crossing the way of this singular man, would find him seated at the door of his hut, with his rifle across his knees, and his faithful dog at his side; surveying his shrivelled limbs, and lamenting that his youth and manhood were gone, but hoping his legs would serve him to the last of life, to carry him to spots frequented by the game, that he might not starve. In his solitude he would sometimes speak of his past actions, and of his indefatigable labours, with a glow of delight on his countenance, that indicated how dear they were to his heart, and would then become at once silent and dejected. Thus he passed through life till he had reached the age of ninety, when death suddenly terminated his earthly recollections of the ingratitude of his fellow-creatures, at a period when his faculties, though he had attained such an age, were not greatly impaired, September 26, 1820.

Colonel Boone was a man of common stature, of great enterprise, strong intellect, amiable disposition, and inviolable integrity.

As a token of respect and regard for him, both houses of the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, upon information of his death being communicated

resolved to wear crape on the left arm, for the space of twenty days.

His body was interred in the same grave with his wife, at Charettee village, county of Montgomery, Missouri.

THOMAS MIFFLIN.

Thomas Mifflin, one of the signers of the federal constitution, and major-general in the army of the United States, was born about the year 1744. His education was intrusted to the care of the Rev. Dr. Smith, provost of the university of Pennsylvania, with whom he was connected in habits of cordial intimacy and friendship for more than forty years. At an early period of our struggles he zealously espoused the cause of his country, and ably advocated the liberties of the people against the usurpations of tyranny.

In 1774 he was elected a member of the first Congress.

In 1775 on the organization of the continental army, he was appointed quartermaster-general.

In 1787, he was a member of the convention which framed the constitution of the United States, and his name is affixed to that instrument.

In 1788 he succeeded Dr. Franklin as president of the supreme executive council of Pennsylvania, in which station he continued till 1790. In September, a constitution of this state was formed by a convention, in which he presided, and was chosen the first governor.

In 1794 he contributed not a little by his eloquence and activity to restore order and peace among the insurrectionists of Pennsylvania.

He was succeeded in the office of governor by Mr. M'Kean at the close of the year 1799, and died at Lancaster, January 20, 1800, in the fifty-seventh year of his age. He was an active and zealous patriot, who had devoted much of his life in the service of his country.

THE IRON MASK.

Although conjecture has long been exhausted, as to the identity of the person in the Iron Mask, yet the fact of such a prisoner having been confined, and dying in the Bastile, as first made public by Voltaire, has since been abundantly confirmed in all its leading points. The Journal of M. de Jonca, who was many years *Lieutenant du Roi* at the Bastile, gives an account of the prisoner being removed from the Island of St. Marguerite, on M. de St. Mars being appointed Governor of the Bastile. He says the prisoner always wore a mask of black *velvet*, a circumstance confirmed by several writers, although he has been called the *Iron Mask*; and that he died in the Bastile, and was buried on the 20th of November, 1703, in the burying place of St. Paul. In the register of this parish there is the following entry:

"In the year 1703, on the 19th day of November, Marchiali, aged forty-five years or thereabouts, died at the Bastile. His body was interred in the burying place of this parish of St. Paul, on the 20th of the said month, in the presence of Monsieur de Rosarges, Mayor of the Bastile, and Monsieur Reilh, the surgeon, who accordingly sign this."

Father Grisset, in his *Traite de Preuves qui servent pour etablir la Verite de l'Histoire*, says nothing can exceed the dependence that may be placed on the Journal of M. de Jonca. He adds that a great many circumstances relating to this prisoner were known to the officers and servants at the Bastile, when Monsieur de Launay was appointed mayor there; that M. de Launay told him he was informed by them, that immediately after the prisoner's death, his apparel, linen, clothes, mattresses, and, in short, every thing that had been used by him, were burnt; that the walls of his room were scraped, and the floor taken up; all evidently from the apprehension

that he might have found means of writing something that would have discovered who he was; and that Monsieur d'Argenson, who often came to the Bastile when lieutenant-general of the police, hearing that the garrison still spoke of this prisoner, asked one day what was said about him, and after hearing some of the conjectures observed, "*they will never know.*"

It is related by others, that beside the precautions mentioned by M. de Launay, the glass was taken out of the window of his room, and pounded to dust; the window frame and doors burnt; and the ceiling of the room, and the plaster of the inside of the chimney taken down. Several persons have affirmed, that the body was buried without a head; and M. de St. Foix, in his *Essais Historiques* informs us, that a gentleman having bribed the sexton, had the body taken up in the night, and found a stone instead of the head.

Monsieur de la Grange Chaucel, who was sent prisoner to St. Marguerite, for, writing a satire called the *Philipic*, on the Duke of Orleans, speaking of the *Iron Mask*, says, that "the governor behaved with the greatest respect to the prisoner; that he was always served on plate, and furnished with as rich clothes as he desired; that, when he had occasion to see a surgeon or physician, he was obliged, under pain of death, constantly to wear his mask; but when he was alone, he sometimes amused himself with pulling out the hairs of his beard with fine steel pincers." He adds, "Several persons have informed me that, when M. de St. Mars went to take possession of the government of the Bastile, whither he was to conduct the prisoner, they heard the latter say to him, 'Has the king any intention against my life?' and de St. Mars replied, 'No, PRINCE, your life is in safety; you must only allow yourself to be conducted.'"

One Dubuisson, who was confined at St. Marguerite, says, that "he was lodged with other persons in the room immediately above that where the prisoner

with the mask was; that they found means of speaking to him by the vents of their chimneys; and that having one day pressed him to tell who he was, he refused, saying, that it he did, it would not only cost him his own life, but the lives of those to whom the secret might be revealed."

M. de St. Mars, in his way from St. Marguerite to the Bastile, halted with the prisoner at his house at Palteau. The house was afterwards bought by a person who took its name, and who in a letter to M. Freron, on this subject, says,

"In 1698, M. de St. Mars was removed from his government of St. Marguerite to that of the Bastile. In going to this new government, he stopped with his prisoner at Palteau. The prisoner was in a litter that went before that of M. de St. Mars, and was accompanied by several men on horseback. Some peasants that I examined, who went to pay their compliments to their master, said, that while he was at table with his prisoner, the latter sat with his back towards the window that looked into the court; that they did not observe, therefore, whether he ate with his mask on, but saw very distinctly that M. de St. Mars, who sat opposite to him, had a pair of pistols laying by his plate. They were attended at dinner only by a *valet-de-chambre.*"

But Voltaire is the most circumstantial; in his "Age of Louis XIV." he says;

"Some months after the death of Cardinal Mazarine, in 1661, there happened an event of which there is no example, and what is no less strange, the historians of that time seem to have been unacquainted with it.

"There was sent, with the greatest secresy, to the castle on the Island of Marguerite, in the sea of Provence, an unknown prisoner, rather above the middle size, young, and of a graceful figure. On the road he wore a mask, with steel springs, that enabled him to eat without taking it off. Those who con-

ducted him had orders to kill him if he made any attempt to discover himself. He remained there until the Governor of Pignerol, an officer of confidence, named St. Mars, being appointed governor of the Bastile, in 1690, brought him from thence to the Bastile, always covered with a mask. The Marquess de Louvois, who went and saw him at St. Marguerite, spoke to him standing, and with that kind of attention that marks respect. He was lodged at the Bastile as well as that castle would admit. Nothing was refused him that he desired. His chief taste was for lace and linen, remarkably fine. He played on the guitar. His table was the best that could be provided; and the governor seldom sat down in his presence. An old physician of the Bastile, who had often attended him when he was indisposed, said that he never saw his face, though he had frequently examined his tongue and parts of his body; that he was admirably well made, that his skin was rather brown, that he had something interesting in the sound of his voice, that he never complained, or let drop any thing by which it might be guessed who he was.

"This unknown person died in 1703, and was buried in the night, at the burying ground of the parish of St. Paul. What increases our astonishment is, that when he was sent to St. Marguerite, no person of importance in Europe was missing. Yet this prisoner certainly was a person of importance. See what happened soon after his arrival there. The governor put the dishes on the table himself; retired and locked the door. One day the prisoner wrote something with his knife on a silver plate and threw it out of the window towards a boat that was drawn on shore near the bottom of the tower. A fisherman to whom the boat belonged, took up the plate and brought it to the governor, who, with evident astonishment, asked the man if he had read what was written on the plate, or if any other person

had seen it. He said he could not read; that he had but just found it, and that no one else had seen it. He was, however confined until the governor was certain that he could not read and that no other had seen the plate. He then dismissed him, saying, '*It is lucky for you that you cannot read.*'"

The Abbé Papon relates, "that a young lad, a barber, having seen one day something white floating on the water, took it up: it was a fine shirt, written almost all over. He carried it to M. de St. Mars, who having looked at some parts of the writing, asked the lad, with an appearance of anxiety, if he had not had the curiosity to read it. He assured him repeatedly that he had not; but two days afterwards the boy was found dead in his bed."

M. de la Borde informs us, that M. Linguet, in the course of his inquiries found that when the Iron Mask went to mass, he had the most express orders not to speak or show himself; that the invalids were commanded to fire on him if he disobeyed; that their arms were loaded with balls; and that he therefore took great care to conceal himself, and to be silent.

Among the various conjectures respecting the Iron Mask, one writer supposes him to have been the Duke of Beauford, second son of Cæsar, Duke of Vendome; but he was killed by the Turks in 1669. Another suspects him to have been the Count de Vermandois, natural son of Louis XIV. who died publicly with the army in 1683. A third says it was the Duke of Monmouth, of whose death, however, English history gives a very satisfactory account. A fourth says it was a minister of the Duke of Mantua; but the respect paid to the prisoner is sufficient to refute such an opinion.

Others have said the Iron Mask was the son of Anne of Austria, wife of Louis XIII. and that his father was the Duke of Buckingham, who was ambassador in France in 1625; but there is no ground whatever for the assertion. A more prevalent opin

ion is, that he was the twin-brother of Louis XIV. born some hours after him; and that the king their father, fearing that the pretensions of a twin-brother might one day be employed to renew those civil wars with which France had so often been afflicted, cautiously concealed his birth, and sent him away to be brought up privately.

MADAME ROLAND.

"To-day on a throne, to-morrow in a prison."

"Such," observes Madame Roland, "is the fate of virtue in revolutionary times. Enlightened men, who have pointed out its rights, are, by a nation weary of oppression, first called into authority. But it is not possible that they should maintain their places. The ambitious, eager to take advantage of circumstances, mislead the people by flattery; and to acquire consequence and power, prejudice them against their real friends. Men of principle, who despise adulation, and contemn intrigue, meet not their oppressors on equal terms; their fall is therefore certain; the still small voice of sober reason, amidst the tumult of the passions, is easily overpowered."

The resignation of the minister Roland, appeased not his enemies; they thirsted for his life. The revolutionary committee sent some of their myrmidons to arrest him; but Roland had fled. His wife, the heroic-minded Madame Roland, remained alone to brave all their fury. "Let them," she said, "satiate it upon me; I defy its power, and devote myself to death. It is incumbent on *him* to save himself for the sake of his country, to which he may be yet capable of rendering important services." She was sent to the Abbaye.

The wife of the keeper made some civil observations, expressive of the regret she felt when a prisoner of her own sex arrived; "for" added she, "they have

not all your serene countenance." Madame Roland thanked her with a smile, while the keeper locked her into a room hastily put in order for her reception. "Well, then," said she, seating herself, and falling into a strain of reflections, "I am in prison." The moments that followed, she declares she would not have exchanged for those which might be esteemed by others as the happiest of her life. "I recalled the past to my mind," says she; "I calculated the events of the future; I devoted myself, if I may so say, voluntarily to my destiny, whatever it might be; I defied its rigour, and fixed myself firmly in that state of mind in which, without giving ourselves concern for what is to come, we seek only employment for the present."

On rising next morning, she busied herself in arranging her apartment. She had in her pocket Thomson's Seasons, a work of which she was particularly fond. She made a memorandum of such other books as she should wish to procure; among these were the Lives of Plutarch, Hume's History of England, and Sheridan's Dictionary. While employed in these peaceful preparations, she heard the town in a tumult, and the drums beating to arms. She could not help smiling at the contrast. "At any rate," said she, "they shall not prevent my living to my last moment more happy, in conscious innocence, than my persecutors, with the rage that animates them. If they come, I will advance to meet them, and go to death as a man would go to repose."

To a faithful domestic, who came to visit her, she observed, "Whenever I have been ill, I have experienced a particular kind of serenity, proceeding unquestionably from my mode of thinking, and from the law I have laid down for myself; or always submitted quietly to necessity, instead of revolting against it. The moment I take to my bed, every duty and every solicitude seems at an end; I am bound only to remain there with resignation and with a

good grace. I find that imprisonment produces on me nearly the same effect; I am bound only to be in prison, and what great hardship is there in that? *I am not such very bad company for myself.*"

Madame Roland seemed to take a pleasure in making trials of her fortitude, and inuring herself to privations. She determined to make an experiment how far the mind is capable of diminishing gradually the wants of the body. She began by substituting, in place of coffee and chocolate, bread and water for breakfast. For her dinner, she had one plain dish of meat, with a few vegetables; and for her supper, vegetables also, without a dessert. She relinquished both wine and beer. As her purpose in adopting this conduct was moral rather than economical, she appropriated the sums thus saved, for the relief of those miserable wretches who were lying upon straw; that while eating her dry bread in the morning, she might have the pleasure of reflecting, that by this deprivation, she was adding to their dinner.

A short time after, she was transferred to the prison of St. Pelagie. The wing there appropriated to female prisoners, was divided into long and very narrow corridors, on one side of which were the cells. Under the same roof, and upon the same line, separated only by a thin partition of plaster, was the respectable wife of the virtuous Roland forced to dwell, in the midst of women of the most abandoned characters, and exposed to every sort of insult and contumely. "If this," observed the heroic sufferer, "be the reward of virtue on earth, who can be astonished at my contempt of life, or at the resolution with which I look death in the face?"

Fortitude, she justly conceived, consisted not merely in an effort of the mind to rise above circumstances, but in maintaining that elevation by suitable conduct. She divided her days with the exactest order. In the morning she studied English, in Shaftesbury's Essay on Virtue, and the Seasons of Thomson; with the

former she strengthened her reason, with the latter she charmed her imagination and delighted her feelings. Afterwards she employed herself with her crayons till the hour of dinner; and the evenings she devoted either to writing memoirs of her life, or to the perusal of Tacitus and Plutarch. The whole of her conduct was a striking proof how much even the malice of fortune is impotent, when directed against those who have acquired the habit of exerting their faculties, and of exercising over themselves a voluntary control.

Madame Roland was at length, after five months' confinement, condemned to the scaffold. She beheld the approach of death with unaffected tranquillity. Although passed the prime of life, she was still a charming women; her person was tall and elegantly framed; her countenance animated and expressive, but misfortune and confinement had impressed on her aspect traces of melancholy, which tempered its vivacity. In a body moulded by grace, and fashioned by a courtly politeness, she possessed a republican soul. Something more than is generally found in the eyes of women, was painted in her's, which were large, dark, and full of softness and intelligence. Sometimes her sex recovered its ascendency, and it was easy to perceive that conjugal and maternal recollections had drawn tears from her eyes. The woman who waited upon her said to M. Riouffe, "Before you she is all courage; but in her own room she sometimes stands for three hours together, leaning against the window and weeping."

Nothing could exceed the heroic firmness which she displayed on the scaffold. She suffered her hair to be cut off, and her hands to be bound, without uttering a murmur or complaint. Before laying her head on the block, she bowed to the statue of Liberty exclaiming, in a tone of heartfelt pathos,

"*O, Liberty! what crimes are committed in thy name!*"

YOUNG CASABIANCA.

On the fatal explosion of the Orient at the battle of the Nile, the conduct and death of admiral Casabianca's son, a boy whose age did not exceed thirteen, were singularly remarkable. Stationed among the guns, he encouraged the gunners and sailors; and when the firing happened to be impeded in the heat of the action, through excess of zeal and agitation, he restored order and tranquillity by a coolness which was quite astonishing for his age; he made the gunners and sailors sensible of their inadvertencies, and took care that each gun was served with cartridges suited to its calibre.

He did not know that his father had been mortally wounded; and when the fire broke out on board the Orient, and the guns were abandoned, this courageous child remained by himself, and called loudly on his father to tell him, if he could quit his post like the rest without dishonour. The fire was making dreadful ravages, yet he still waited for his father's answer; but in vain! At length an old sailor informed him of the misfortune of Casabianca, and told him that he was ordered to save his son's life by surrendering. He refused, and ran to the gun-room. When he perceived his father, he threw himself upon him, held him in his close embrace, and declared that he would never quit him. In vain his father entreated him and threatened him; in vain the old sailor, who felt an attachment to his captain, wished to render him this last service. "I must die, I will die with my father!" answered the generous child. "There is but a moment remaining," observed the sailor; "I shall have a great difficulty in saving myself; adieu." The flame reaching the powder, the vessel blew up, with the young Casabianca, who in vain covered with his body the mutilated remains of his father. Such is what the old sailor related to General Kleber and Louis Bonaparte, on landing at Alexandria.

AUGUSTINA SARRAGOSSA.

At the siege of Sarragossa in the year 1809, Augustina Sarragossa, about twenty-two years of age, a handsome woman of the lower class of people, whilst carrying refreshments to the gates, arrived at the battery of the Portillo, at the very moment when the French fire had absolutely destroyed every person that was stationed in it. The citizens and soldiers for the moment hesitated to reman the guns; Augustina rushed forward over the wounded and the slain, snatched a match from the hand of a dead artilleryman, and fired off a twenty-six pounder; then jumping upon the gun, made a solemn vow never to quit it alive during the siege; and having stimulated her fellow-citizens, by this daring intrepidity, to fresh exertions, they instantly rushed into the battery, and again opened a tremendous fire on the enemy.

For her heroism on this occasion, she afterwards received the surname of "Sarragossa," a pension from the government, and the daily pay of an artilleryman.

GENERAL PAEZ.

General Paez, who commanded the Venezulian cavalry, was the most enterprising of all the officers who have fought under the republican banners in South America. Paez was self-taught, and sprang up all of a sudden during the revolution, before which he was hardly heard of. When it broke out, he was soon found at the head of a numerous body; his courage, intrepidity, and repeated successes, speedily gained him a reputation. The quickness of his movements, the rapidity with which he pursued the flying enemy, the personal conflicts in which he had been engaged, and the conquests he had made both collec-

tively and individually, rendered him the admiration of his adherents, and the dread of his enemies, into whom his very name struck terror, as they advanced to the plains and savannas to encounter him. General Paez was uncommonly active; he would for amusement, as he did before some English officers, single out a wild bull from the herd of cattle, and ride him down, pass his lance through, and thus slay him; or gallop up to the animal's rear, and grasping the tail firmly in his hand, twist it so suddenly and strongly as to throw the beast on his side; when, if some of his followers did not come up, he would by a cut of his sabre, hamstring and leave him.

Bolivar being in company with Paez on the banks of the Orinoco, on a reconnoitering excursion, and perceiving four of the enemy's gun boats about half a mile distant, expressed a wish that the Independents were in possession of them, to enable them to make an attack by water on the other side. Paez declared he would soon accomplish his wish; at which Bolivar laughed, and asked how he intended to come at them? The taunt piqued Paez, who immediately collected a party of his most tried adherents, and calling upon them to follow him, drew his sword and placing it in his mouth, plunged into the stream. His men imitated his example, and he succeeded in boarding and capturing the enemy's boats with very little loss.

DUKE OF WELLINGTON.

During the scene of tumult and courage which the battle of Waterloo presented, at every moment and in every place, the Duke of Wellington exposed his person with a freedom which made all around him tremble for that life on which it was obvious the fate of the battle depended. There was scarcely a square but he visited in person, encouraging the men

by his presence, and the officers by his directions. While he stood on the centre of the high road in front of Mount St. Jean, several guns were levelled against him, distinguished as he was by his suite, and the movements of the officers, who were passing to and fro with orders. The balls repeatedly grazed a tree near him, when he observed to one of his suite, "That's good practice; I think they fire better than in Spain." Riding up to the 95th, when in front of the line, and even then expecting a formidable charge of cavalry, he said, "Stand fast, 95th, we must not be beat; what will they say in England?" On another occasion, when many of the best and bravest men had fallen, and the event of the action seemed doubtful even to those who remained, he said, with the coolness of a spectator, "Never mind, we'll win this battle yet." To another regiment then closely engaged, he used a common sporting expression, "Hard pounding this, gentlemen; let's see who will pound longest."

One general officer found himself under the necessity of stating to the duke, that his brigade was reduced to one third of its numbers; and that those who remained were so exhausted with fatigue, that a temporary relief, of however short duration, seemed a measure of necessity. "Tell him," said the duke, "what he proposes is impossible. He, I, and every Englishman in the field, must die on the spot we now occupy." "It is enough," returned the general; "I, and every man under my command, are determined to share his fate."

THE MARQUESS OF ANGLESEA.

Next to the Duke of Wellington, the success of the battle of Waterloo was, perhaps, more indebted to the first "cavalry officer in the world," as the gallant marquess is called, than to any other of the nu-

merous warriors who so gloriously distinguished themselves on that eventful day. "He displayed," says an eye-witness of his lordship's conduct in the field on this occasion, "consummate valour in the sight of his admiring men. As it was the greatest object at the moment to kindle the spirit of our troops; what could more effectually do this, than the display, gallantry, and dash of their superior? This was the more important, as it is also a certain fact, that not having as yet made an essay on the cuirassiers, they entertained the idea that all attack upon them was ineffectual."

Twice had the marquess, then Earl of Uxbridge, led the guards to the charge, cheering them with the rallying cry of "Now for the honour of the household troops," when three heavy masses of the enemy's infantry advanced, supported by artillery, and a numerous body of cuirassiers. This formidable body drove in the Belgians, leaving the highland brigade to receive the shock. At this critical moment, the Earl of Uxbridge galloped up to the second heavy brigade, (Ponsonby's) when the three regiments were wheeled up in the most masterly style, presenting a beautiful front of about thirteen hundred men. As his lordship rode down the line, he was received by a general shout and cheer from the brigade. Then placing himself at their head, he made the most rapid and destructive charge ever witnessed. The division they attacked consisted of upwards of nine thousand men, under Count D'Erlon. Of these, three thousand were made prisoners, and the rest killed, with the exception of about a thousand men, who formed themselves under cover of the cuirassiers.

His lordship afterwards led the "household troops" in several brilliant attacks, cutting in pieces whole battalions of the old guard, into whose masses they penetrated; when after having successfully got through this arduous day, he received a wound in the knee

by almost the last shot that was fired. The wound was such, that it was found necessary to amputate the leg.

EDWARD LYTTON BULWER.

A WRITER in the New Monthly Magazine, after reviewing the works of this gentleman, observes:

A transition from the author's works to the author's self, has been a common consequence of fame in all ages. Though we do not quite go the length of Genevese, who, publishing an account of Rousseau's visit to his native city, deems it worthy of mention that Jean Jacques wore a cap trimmed with fur, but that he would not decide whether it was lined with fur or not, for he never took it off: still, by that rule which leads us to judge of others' feelings by our own, we think the curiosity, personal though it be, about a distinguished author, is, to say the least, very excusable. We often hear complaints that the author does not sustain the *beau ideal* of his hero; this complaint, at least, cannot be made of Mr. Bulwer. His appearance is distinguished, his features chiselled and regular, and the whole expression of his face highly intellectual as well as handsome. Generally, though we confess to having but a slight personal knowledge, Mr. Bulwer is silent and reserved in society, but this may in some measure arise from his extreme distaste to mixing with it: for at times nothing can exceed the flushing wit of his gayer converse, unless it be the originality and interest of his more serious discourse. Mr. Bulwer is married, and is we believe among the instances that genius is very compatible with domestic happiness. Prediction has an easy task in foretelling a future when its prophecy is founded on a past of rich promise. When we say that he gave us the idea of one whose habits were fastidious and tastes refined—

when we find in him the descendant of an ancient and aristocratic family, and know him to be one nursed in all the lavish indulgence of wealth, the more are our causes of admiration for one whose talents disdained repose, and whose pages have ever advocated the cause of right.

Sophocles, in the days of old, could dream away his summer midnight on the reeds by the Hysus, listening to the moonlight music of the nightingales. Mr. Bulwer early felt, that a modern writer had nothing in common with this literary luxury, and his genius has ever seemed held by him as a trust rather than an enjoyment. We should think the great success of his writings in other countries must be very gratifying. Praise from afar comes the nearest to fame. Mr. Bulwer has already produced four standard novels, works replete with thought and mind, and he yet wants some years of thirty. A still more active career, that of public life, now lies before him. If first rate talents, enlarged and liberal views, strong and noble principles, can make one man's future an object and benefit to his country, we are justified in the high anticipations with which we look forward to Mr. Bulwer's future. Last year he was eagerly solicited, by a large body of its most respectable inhabitants, to stand for Southwark.

Reluctance to oppose Mr. Calvert, made him decline the honour; but we cannot conclude this article better than by part of his first declaration of public faith—"I should have founded my pretensions, had I addressed myself to your notice, upon that warm and hearty sympathy in the great interests of the people, which, even as in my case, without the claim of a long experience or the guarantee of a public name, you have so often, and I must add, so laudably, esteemed the surest and highest recommendation to your favour. And, gentlemen, to the eager wish, I will not hesitate to avow that I should have added the determined resolution to extend and widen, in all

their channels, those pure and living truths, which can alone circulate through the vast mass of the community that political happiness so long obstructed from the many, and so long adulterated even for the few.

LADY MARY WORTLEY MONTAGUE.

Lady Mary Pierpont was the eldest daughter of Evelyn, Duke of Kingston. She was born at Thoresby in Nottinghamshire, about the year 1694. The first dawn of her genius opened so auspiciously, that her father resolved to cultivate the advantages of nature by a sedulous attention to her early instruction.

A classical education was not then given to English ladies of quality, when Lady Montague received one of the best. Under the same preceptors as Viscount Newark, her brother, she acquired the elements of the Greek, Latin, and French languages, with the greatest success. Her studies were afterwards superintended by Bishop Burnet, and her translation of the Enchiridon of Epictetus received his emendations; this translation, she said, in the letter that accompanied it, "was the work of one week of my solitude," and it was to uninterrupted leisure and private habits of life, that she was much indebted for so complete an improvement of her mind. In 1712, she married E. W. Montague, Esq., a man possessed of solid, rather than brilliant parts; but the soundness of his judgment, and the gracefulness of his oratory, distinguished him in parliament. During the first two years of her marriage, Lady Mary had lived in retirement at Wharncliffe Lodge, near Sheffield, where her son was born; but in 1714, Mr. Montague was appointed one of the lords of the treasury, which introduced them at court, and into those distinguished circles in which she was so well formed to shine.

In 1716, Mr. Montague was appointed ambassador

to the Ottoman Porte; and in August, the same year, he commenced an arduous journey over the continent of Europe, to Constantinople, accompanied by Lady Mary, whose conjugal affection reconciled her to the dangers unavoidably to be encountered in passing the savage Turkish territory; the native horrors of which were then doubled by those of war. They travelled through Germany, Bohemia, and Hungary; great part of this journey was performed during the winter, and the Danube being frozen, they were obliged to travel entirely by land; the route they took was very little traversed, even by the Hungarians themselves, who generally chose to wait for the conveniency of going down the Danube. It was April, 1717, before they arrived at Adrianople, after a journey of eight months; and in a letter, addressed to the Princess of Wales, Lady Mary says, "I have now finished a journey that has not been undertaken by any Christian, since the time of the Greek emperors." Whilst on her journey, and during her residence at the Levant, she amused herself, and delighted her friends, by a regular correspondence, chiefly to her sister, the Countess of Mar, Lady Rich, and some other ladies of court, and to Mr. Pope. The ambassador and his suite remained two months at Adrianople, to which city Achmet III. had then removed his court from Constantinople. During her stay at the latter, her active mind was regularly engaged in the pursuit of objects so new to her, as the Turkish capital presented. Among her other talents was a great facility of learning languages; and in the assemblage of ten embassies from different countries, of which her society was chiefly composed, she had daily opportunities of practising them. She began the study of the Turkish, under the tuition of one of Mr. Wortley's dragomans or interpreters, who compiled for her use a grammar and vocabulary, in Turkish and Italian. In one of her letters, she says, "I am in great danger of losing my English; I live in a place that very well repre-

sents the tower of Babel; in Pera, where I now am, they speak fifteen languages, and what is worse, there are ten of these spoken in my own family. My grooms are Arabs; my footmen French, English, and Germans; my nurse an Armenian; my housemaids Greeks (half a dozen Greeks;) my steward an Italian, and my guards Turks."

There was a custom then prevalent in Turkey, though unknown in England, into which Lady Mary examined, and at length became perfectly satisfied of its efficacy. It was that of inoculating with *variolous* matter, in order to produce a milder disease, and to prevent the ravages made by the small-pox. The process was so simple, that she did not hesitate to apply it to her son, then three years old. She described her success in a letter from Belgrade, to Mr. Wortley at Pera: "The boy was engrafted last Tuesday, and is at this time singing and playing, impatient for his supper: I pray God I may be able to give as good an account of him in my next." On her return to England, she strenuously advocated the system, and it is to her we are indebted for its introduction into this country.

Mr. Wortley's negotiations failing of their intended effect, he received letters of recall under the privy seal, October, 1717, which was countersigned by his friend Addison, then secretary of state.

He did not commence his journey home till June 6, 1718: they returned through the Archipelago, landed at Tunis, and having crossed the Mediterranean, arrived at Genoa, and from thence passed Turin to Lyons and Paris, and reached England, October 20, 1718. In a short time after her return, Lady Mary was solicited by Pope to fix her summer residence at Twickenham; and in retirement there she enjoyed the literary society which resorted to his villa. But the ties of friendship, which existed between them, were not of long duration. Lady Mary espoused Sir Robert Walpole's politics, while Pope adhered to

Bolingbroke and Swift: he also became jealous of her partiality to Lord Harvey. Lady Mary had besides omitted to consult him on any new poetical productions; and when he had been proposing emendations, would say, "Come, no touching, Pope; for what is good the world will give to you, and what is bad will leave to me." Lady Montague continued to shine, both in the world of fashion and that of literature, till the year 1739, when her health declined, and she formed the resolution of passing the rest of her days abroad. Having obtained Mr. Wortley's consent, she left England, and proceeded to Venice, and determined to settle in the North of Italy. In her letters to her husband, she gives an animated description of the Italian manners, with which she appears to have been pleased. She made a short tour to Rome and Naples, and returned to Brescia, one of the palaces of which city she inhabited. Her summer residence was Louverre, on the shores of the Lake Isco, in the Venetian territory, where she was attracted by some mineral waters that she found beneficial to her health. There she took possession of a deserted palace, planned her garden, and was happy in the superintendence of her vineyards and silkworms. About the year 1751, she quitted her solitude, and settled at Venice, where she remained till 1761, when, on the death of Mr. Wortley, she was prevailed on by her daughter, the Countess of Bute, to return to England; and, after an absence of twenty-two years, she arrived, once more, on the shores of her native land.

But age, and ill-health, had impaired her constitution, and a gradual decline terminated her life, in the seventy-third year of her age, on the 21st of August, 1762. In the cathedral at Litchfield a cenotaph is erected to her memory, by the widow of J. W. Inge, Esq., to express her gratitude for the benefit she had herself received from the alleviating art introduced by Lady Montague.

The letters of the Marchioness de Sevigné have been frequently compared to those of Lady Mary, but I cannot allow my fair countrywoman to yield the palm to her rival; her letters are written with equal elegance of style, and playfulness of manner; and, from the superiority of subject, possess that intrinsic interest of which Madame de Sevigné's are destitute.

But as an authoress, and as being indebted to her for the introduction of an inestimable art to her country, I think our sex has reason to be proud of Lady Mary Montague.

LIFE OF DR. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN.

It would be difficult to find a better instance of the power of industry and perseverance to raise a man from an obscure situation in life to distinction, and from great poverty to independence, than is afforded us by Benjamin Franklin. This celebrated man was an American, and a great honour to his country When he became old he had much pleasure in looking back on his past life, for he had been guilty of no crime, he had struggled against difficulties and overcome them, he had acquired fame as a writer and a philosopher, and he had been useful to the country in which he was born. He therefore wrote an account of his recollections from his earliest youth, and of this a cheap edition has been published by a bookseller in the Strand, which may be obtained for eight-pence.* Every word of it is worth reading.

Franklin's father lived at Boston, in the United States. He was an Englishman who had, like many of his countrymen, gone over to America; and his son Benjamin could not have had many advantages of fortune, for he was one of seventeen brothers and

* Limbird's Edition.

sisters, and his father was a tallow-chandler and soap-boiler.

Benjamin had an uncle, after whom he was named, who, although a silk-dyer by trade, had been a great reader and writer, and who seems to have been anxious about his nephew's education. But at ten years of age young Franklin was obliged to leave the grammar-school at which he had been placed, and to go home to help his father in the candle business, which he did not at all like. His father had not money enough to pay an apprentice-fee with him: he was, however, unable to choose any other trade, and for the convenience of all parties he was bound apprentice to his brother, who was a printer, and had learned his trade in England. At this time Benjamin was only twelve years of age; but his father had noticed that he had laid out all his money in books, and therefore thought the trade of a printer would suit him very well.

His love of reading continued; and he used to borrow books from all the booksellers' apprentices with whom he became acquainted, and to sit up at night, after finishing his day's work, to read them; for, fond as he was of books, he did not neglect his trade, but became every day more and more useful to his brother by his knowledge of the business of the printing-office.

Young men, who are fond of reading, are often fond of trying their own powers of writing what others may read. This desire is useful, or not, according to the direction it takes. It may be very useful for a working printer, for instance, to write down any observations that are in any way connected with his own trade, with types, or ink, or paper, or books; and many men have made valuable discoveries in this way, by making use of their own observations. It is also very serviceable to every man to be able to express himself in good English, and to write a plain, straight-forward letter, either describing what

he has seen, or what he wishes to have. Nor can it be otherwise than advantageous to a young man, whatever his station may be, to make memorandums of any thing particular that he may observe in the character and history of his companions; the effects he observes to arise from passion, envy, idleness, or drunkenness, and the different behaviour caused by any change of fortune in them. It is also a very useful thing, to spend a quarter of an hour every evening in writing a kind of journal of what has taken place in the day, and how the day has been spent; which will often show that many hours have not been spent so well as they might have been.

But for want of a little good advice on this point, young men commonly take to scribbling verses, and when they are tired of this, as tired they are almost sure soon to be, they frequently throw away pen and ink for ever.

However, Benjamin Franklin began by attempting to write verses, although his father, who was a plain, sound-headed man, soon convinced him that his songs were not worth the trouble of writing. He told him too, what I fear is really the case, that *versemakers* were generally *beggars*. But though Franklin left off song-writing, he did not throw away his pen and ink, but became one of the best and clearest prose writers that ever wrote in our language. Before he improved so much, he was very industrious, and took endless pains; reading some of the best English writers, particularly in an odd volume of the Spectator, which he happened to possess, and trying again and again to write as well.

You may have perceived by what has already been said of him, that he was not easily turned away from any good pursuit; and it was about this time that he determined to save money by living on vegetable diet alone. He told his brother that if he would only give him half what his board cost him, he would board himself; and he found that he could still save

half of what his brother gave him. This he did that he might have more money to spend in books. No working-man need at this time do any thing of the kind, for books are more easily to be had than they were in Franklin's time, and if a working-man lives entirely upon vegetables, he will probably lose his health, and be unable to continue his work, which no one should run the risk of doing, even for the sake of reading. Reading is a *pleasure*, and an innocent and useful pleasure; but working at the work by which a man lives is a *duty*, and no man should run the risk of being unable to perform it. Therefore, let every man who loves independence, avoid late hours, irregular living, and excess of reading as well as excess of any other kind. A man's health is his property, and sickness is sure to bring poverty after it.

Franklin's brother treated him not very kindly, and Benjamin bore his ill-treatment not very patiently. The consequence was, a separation; and Benjamin sold his small stock of books to procure a little sum of money, and embarked on board a vessel for New-York, the nearest place to Boston in which there was any printer. At the end of this voyage, which lasted three days, he was three hundred miles from his friends, unknown to any one, and, of course, not very rich. To add to these unpleasant circumstances, which do not appear to have lessened his habitual cheerfulness, he found he could get no work at New-York, and was obliged to go on to Philadelphia, a hundred miles further. He entered Philadelphia in his working dress, which was not very clean; his pockets were stuffed out with his few shirts and stockings; he had not more than a few shillings in the world; and he knew nobody. It was with an honest pride, that, in his after-life, he related this his first entry into Philadelphia, contrasting it with the figure he afterwards made there, when, by perseverance, and industry, and economy, he had attained fame and competency.

He had not been long at Philadelphia, where he was employed in a printing-office, when a very curious circumstance led to his visiting England. Sir William Keith, the governor of the province, having seen one of Franklin's letters, undertook to patronize him, and tried to persuade old Mr. Franklin to advance money to set Benjamin up as a master-printer. The shrewd old man refused to do this, notwithstanding Sir William's offer of patronage. Sir William Keith then promised to help him himself, and persuaded Benjamin, who was only about seventeen years old, to make a voyage to England to buy types and whatever was wanted. He was to have letters of introduction from the governor; but the letters never came; and when he got to England he was laughed at for expecting them, by those who knew Sir William Keith's habits.

It very often happens that the talents of young men excite admiration in some rich, idle, or odd person living in the neighbourhood; and young men are often led to believe, when this is done, that their fortune is made. Very rarely indeed does it happen that this empty praise leads to any thing more; and after a young man has lost a good deal of his time, and perhaps his temper also, he finds out that nothing is to be relied upon but his own exertions. Happy would it have been for many a youth of talent if he had learnt this lesson early, and had known how much more comfortable he is who lives quietly upon the produce of some honest trade, than he who lives more expensively on the promises or on the occasional gifts of persons in a superior station, whose favour is always uncertain, and often suddenly withdrawn.

Poor Franklin doubtless felt that he was learning a hard lesson when he found himself a printer's boy, alone in so great a city as London, where all were busy and anxious for themselves, and no one had time to think about him. But he was not a person likely to sit down and give up all for lost. He had

youth and health, and strength, and some knowledge of a business, and felt convinced that if he starved it would be his own fault. So he set out to seek for work, and very soon got some, and then went on with his reading, just as readily as he had been accustomed to do at Boston. He lodged in the part of London called Little Britain, and made an agreement with a bookseller, who was his next door neighbour, to be allowed to read any of his large collection of second-hand books.

At this time, in consequence of being engaged in printing Wollaston's *Religion of Nature*, he wrote a pamphlet on the subject, which made him known to some learned men. We must remember, that, before he did this, he had been long and diligently preparing his mind by reading. His conduct at this period of his life, when so many young men are idle and profligate, was most excellent. Almost without a friend to advise him or care for him, his command over himself was complete. It was the custom of many of his fellow-workmen to spend much of their money in beer; but some were led by his example to leave off the habit of drinking, and, like him, they found their heads clearer for it, and their pockets better supplied at the end of the week. He never made holiday on Monday; thinking, very justly, that one day out of six was too much to spend unprofitably. Thus he worked fifty-two days more in the year, and received fifty-two days' more wages than most of the other printers; and he became so clever in his trade, and so quick in putting letters together, or what printers call *composing*, that whenever any thing was wanted quickly, he was set to do it; and what was wanted quickly was best paid for.

With all this, Franklin was not a gloomy, affected young man, but as merry as any body, full of jokes and good humour, so that he was a great favourite with every body in the printing-office, and with all his acquaintance. If you read his works, you will

see that this lively disposition remained with him to the end of his life, and that he generally contrived at the time he was writing what was to be useful to his readers, to put in a word or two now and then that might amuse them.

When he had been about a year and a half in London, he left it to return to America, little thinking he should one day return to England, and be courted by all the most distinguished English people. Several years, however, were yet to be passed in the same honest and continual industry, by which, and not by any sudden chances or strokes of fortune, Franklin rose from an humble station to one of distinction.

The reason of his leaving England was this. A Mr. Denham, who had come from America in the same ship with him, and was very friendly towards him, was about to set up a mercantile establishment, or what is called in America, a *store*, at Philadelphia, and offered to make him his clerk, with a salary of fifty pounds a-year. Franklin was earning more than fifty pounds a year in London, but his desire to see his native country once more led him to accept the offer. He was now twenty-one years of age; and it is a proof of the steadiness and foresight which belonged to him, that he employed part of his time, during the voyage, in drawing out a regular plan for the future conduct of his life; and this plan, he says, was "pretty faithfully adhered to quite through to old age." The use of drawing up a plan of this kind, even supposing that some parts of it must afterwards be changed, is considerable. Whoever attempts it must be led to consider the kind of life he is actually leading; and after setting down something better, he will be a little ashamed of not trying to act up to it. If a young man keeps the kind of journal which has already been mentioned, he may easily leave the page opposite the journal of the day or week, for remarks concerning such parts of his past conduct as he thinks

he ought not to repeat, or concerning any thing he may have neglected.

Mr. Denham died a few months after he reached Philadelphia, and with him Franklin lost all the hopes which his friendship had naturally encouraged. After this event, Franklin returned to his old master, whose name was Keimer, and whose types were better than they had been when Franklin was with him before, but who knew very little of his business. Keimer had some peculiar notions, and made Saturday his sabbath, which gave Franklin an additional holiday; and that holiday, from what has already been said of him, you will readily believe was not spent in idleness, but wholly passed in reading.

Some new types were wanted by his master; but there was no letter-foundry in all America at that time, and all types had to be sent for to England. Franklin had seen, when in London, how types were cast, and he set to work to make a mould, and contrived to cast some types himself. Whatever was to be done, he was always ready, and generally able to do it; if ink was wanted, he knew how to make it; he knew a little of engraving, and he attended to the business of the warehouse. He always made his knowledge useful, and was not, what many people fear their workmen will be if they become fond of reading, a mere reader, but an active, clever, contriving man of business, and, let what would happen, never much at a loss. When Keimer, in whose service he did not long remain, had contracted for the printing of some paper-money for the state of New-Jersey, he could not perform his contract without the help of Franklin, and whilst they were engaged in this performance at Burlington, Franklin, who was thinking of setting up for himself, in partnership with one of his fellow-workmen, whose friends had money to assist him, was much encouraged by the conversation of Isaac Decow, the surveyor-general at Burlington, a shrewd and sagacious old man, who used

to tell him how he had himself risen in life; that he began by wheeling clay for the bricklayers, and only learned to write after he was twenty; also that he learned his business of surveying from surveyors for whom he used to carry the chain. Decoy understood Franklin's character, and told him he foresaw that he would make his fortune.

As soon as Franklin returned to Philadelphia, he took a partner, whose name was Meredith, and they commenced business for themselves. The expense of types, and of all that printers require, was very great; and Franklin says that the first five shillings which they earned, by an accidental job, gave him more pleasure than any money he ever earned afterwards. Remembering the difficulties which beset him when a beginner, he was always kind to young men in similar circumstances. His industry and good conduct continued as great as ever. He was soon employed by the Quakers to print a history of their sect, in folio. Franklin composed a sheet of this a day, and his partner worked it off at the press. To compose a folio sheet is a hard day's work for a printer, and it was often eleven o'clock at night before Franklin had got through his task. But he was always determined to do his sheet a day; and one night, just as he was thinking that his day's work was comfortably over, one of the forms being broken, and half of the sheet thus undone again, he set patiently to work, and did it all over again before he left the office. It soon became known that Franklin was thus industrious, and orders for printing came fast, and his credit soon stood very high. Such is the advantage of a good character, that it even supplies the want of money. His partner, Meredith, perhaps relying on his rich relations, was idle, and fond of drinking, and of very little use in the partnership; and Franklin was enabled, by the kindness of two friends, to advance him some money, and get rid of him. They had, not long before, undertaken

to conduct a newspaper; and some articles in it, of Franklin's writing, had gained them friends in the House of Assembly. When the partnership was dissolved, Franklin was left to carry on the business, with nothing but his industry and character to rely upon; but we have seen that his industry was great and his character excellent.

Whoever doubts the possibility of getting on with so small a capital, should read the account of Franklin's progress after this period of his life. He was now twenty-four years of age, and when we find that he went on very successfully from this time, we should also remember that he had been active and industrious, and economical, and fond of reading, from the very time he left school, when only ten years old; so that he had been gathering knowledge for fourteen years, and, doubtless, he had gathered more every year of the fourteen than he did the year before.

His printing succeeded so well, that he was enabled to open a stationer's shop, and also to pay off his debts to the kind friends who had assisted him, which it must have been a most agreeable thing for him to do. Having got clear of the world, and finding his business going on well, he got married, and soon became a very active citizen of Philadelphia. He set up a circulating library, such a thing not having been known before in America. He still set apart an hour or two every day for study, calling study his amusement, and he made himself pretty well acquainted with French and Italian. Many people wish they could learn French and Italian, but forget that an hour a-day given to any language in the world would soon make them able to read it. Not so Franklin; he had been used to know the value of an hour in a day, and not only mastered French and Italian, but Spanish and Latin. But he could never have done this, had he not been very strict about his *hour a-day;* or if he had not refused to go to

races, fairs, bowling-greens, cock-fightings, shooting matches, and idle places of all kinds, in which so much valuable time, and so much money too, are commonly thrown away.

We must not omit to mention one great benefit which Franklin did to the reading part of the population of his country. It was about a hundred years ago, in 1732, that he began to publish an almanac, under the name of Richard Saunders, which was enriched with all those excellent proverbs and sentences, many of which are yet seen on copy-books, and in publications of various kinds. These were called Poor Richard's Sayings, and the almanack was called Poor Richard's Almanac. Every body knows some of Poor Richard's Sayings, and they are all worth remembering. "Early to bed, and early to rise, is the way to be healthy, wealthy, and wise;" "Plow deep while sluggards sleep, and you shall have corn to sell and to keep;" these, and many of a like kind, are quite suitable to the character of Franklin himself, and should be thought of every night and morning by those who wish to thrive. This almanac was published every year, for five-and-twenty years, and, in all probability, did more good than many a learned scholar's work; for every body could understand it. The wise sentences are now collected together, and sold under the title of The Way to Wealth.

In 1736, he was chosen clerk of the General Assembly, and being soon after appointed deputy-postmaster for the State, he turned his thoughts to public affairs, beginning, however, as he says, with small matters. He first occupied himself in improving the city watch; he then suggested and promoted the establishment of a fire-insurance company; and afterwards exerted himself in organizing a philosophical society, an academy for the education of youth, and a militia for the defence of the province. In short, every part of the civil government, as he tells us,

imposed some duty upon him. "The governor," he says, "put me into the commission of the peace, the corporation of the city chose me one of the common-council, and soon after alderman; and the citizens at large elected me a burgess, to represent them in Assembly. This latter station was the more agreeable to me, as I grew at length tired with sitting there, to hear the debates, in which, as clerk, I could take no part, and which were often so uninteresting that I was induced to amuse myself with making magic squares or circles, or any thing to avoid weariness; and I conceived my becoming a member would enlarge my power of doing good. I would not, however, insinuate that my ambition was not flattered by all these promotions,—it certainly was: for, considering my low beginning, they were great things to me; and they were still more pleasing, as being so many spontaneous testimonies of the public good opinion, and by me entirely unsolicited."*

When we read of all this success, we rejoice at it, because it was the reward of years of labour, of prudence, and of virtue. We see Franklin's habits of industry making him useful, and his usefulness leading to promotion; and behold him, who was an honest printer's apprentice, now a distinguished citizen, looked up to, for his judgment and his uprightness, by his neighbours, and exerting himself, in every respect, for their good, and for the good of his country.

The account of his life written by himself was interrupted by the American Revolution, an event which called upon most people to *act*, and act busily. When he went on with it again, he was living at Passy, a pleasant village not far from Paris. On then looking back at the various events in which he had been in some way or other engaged, he recollected that his father used often to remind him of the saying of Solomon, "Seest thou a man diligent

* Pursuit of Knowledge, vol. iv. part ii., p. 242.

in his calling, he shall stand before kings, he shall not stand before mean men;" and he says, that although he did not then think he should ever *stand before kings*, he had actually stood before *five*, and had had the honour of sitting down with one (the King of Denmark) to dinner.

Before that time, indeed, Franklin's character and talents had attracted the attention of his countrymen. He was appointed agent, or what we should call ambassador for America in France, and afterwards in England, and he did his duty to his country throughout the unhappy disputes which ended in the establishment of American liberty. I have myself heard an old French gentleman of rank say that he remembered seeing the plain old man walking by the side of the beautiful Marie Antoinette, the last Queen of France, at the Palace of Versailles.—On his return home, he rose to the dignity of President of the Council.

Franklin distinguished himself also as a philosopher. He was the first person who proved that lightning and electricity are the same, which he did by going out into the fields when a thunder-storm was gathering, and sending up a kite which attracted the lightning from the clouds, and conducted it to a key at the end of the string, from whence Franklin was able to draw sparks. He used afterwards to bring the electric fluid from the clouds into his house by means of a metal rod or conductor, and to perform many experiments with it. He also turned his discovery to useful account, by advising people to have a metal rod fixed above their houses, and carried into the earth: this is called a *conductor*, and if a thunder-cloud is just over a house, the lightning, instead of entering the house, will run down this metal rod, and do no mischief.

A lightning conductor ought to be a little higher than any part of the building. Such conductors may now be seen over many of the churches and public

buildings in London and other towns. A few years ago the spire of the fine old church in which Shakspeare is buried at Stratford-upon-Avon, was struck by lightning, and saved by the conductor: the rod was composed of many pieces, and, after the storm, every joint of it was found blackened. Several large stones at the bottom of the conductor (which passed down the inside of the church) were turned completely over; and if there had been no conductor, the spire would have been thrown down, and the whole church perhaps destroyed; so that the tomb of one great man was then saved by the discoveries of another.

Before Franklin ventured to draw lightning from the clouds, he had thought a great deal concerning it; and the experiment, though it seems a rash one, was not made by chance, but in consequence of good reasons, to which he had arrived by thinking.

Franklin was soon after made a member of our Royal Society; and the Universities of Oxford, Edinburgh, and St. Andrews conferred upon him the degree of Doctor.

After a life of temperance, of labour, and of philosophy made useful; after making himself independent, raising himself to a high rank among men of science, and serving his country faithfully and honourably on very important occasions, he died in 1790, having reached the great age of eighty-five years, leaving his good example to be as useful as his life had been.

ROBERT OWEN, ESQ.

The following anecdote reflects great credit on the good sense as well as the philosophy of Mr. Owen.

During the four months, while by the shutting of the American ports in 1808, the numerous workmen in the manufactory of cotton of which he was a

proprietor, were unemployed, they still received full wages, and the amount thus expended was 7000*l.* On being asked by a committee of parliament "upon what principle he recommended this measure?" he replied, "upon the principle of preventing crime and its consequent misery; because if the poor cannot procure employment, and are not supported, they must commit crime or starve; *and I have always considered that* 7000*l. to have been more advantageously expended than any other part of our capital.*

LORD FITZGERALD.

Lord Edward Fitzgerald, fifth son of the first Duke of Leinster, and grandson of Charles, second Duke of Richmond, was born on the 15th of October, 1763. After the death of his father, he went to reside with his mother and her second husband, Mr. William Ogilvie, under whose superintendence his education was directed, chiefly towards military pursuits, for which he had evinced an early predilection. In 1779, he returned to England, and having entered the army, sailed to America, where he became aid-de-camp to Lord Rawdon, and greatly distinguished himself by his intrepidity and courage. During this campaign, he gave many proofs of valour amounting to rashness and was, on one occasion, left insensible in the field, at Eutaw Springs, severely wounded in the thigh; in which state he was found by a poor negro, who nursed him in his hut, till he recovered. In 1783, he was on General O'Hara's staff at St. Lucia. Returning to his native country, he entered the Irish house of commons; but he found a parliamentary life, he said, so insipid, that, but for his mother, he believed he should have joined the Turks or Russians. In 1786, he entered himself a student of the Military Academy at Woolwich; and, at the termination of his parliamentary career, proceeded on a tour to the

continent, on his return from whence, an attachment he had previously formed, having become hopeless induced him to join his regiment in America, where, according to Mr. Moore, he imbibed those republican notions which, ultimately, proved so disastrous to him. Through his instrumentality, the celebrated William Cobbett, then a sergeant-major in his regiment, was discharged, who spoke of him as "a most humane and excellent man, and the only real honest officer he ever knew in the army." Having determined on returning to England, he made several journeys through unvisited tracts of country on his way thither, and arrived at home in 1790, when he learned that the lady to whom he had been attached was married to another. At this time, his uncle, the Duke of Richmond, being in office, he was, through his recommendation, appointed to lead the enterprise, then in contemplation, against Cadiz, on his promise that he would not appear in the Irish parliament in opposition to government. Being returned, however, to parliament, by the Duke of Leinster, he was accused, by the Duke of Richmond, of breaking his word, and a rupture took place between them, which ended in his losing the appointment. During the progress of the French revolution, in 1792, he visited Paris, and became intimate with Paine, of whom he wrote in terms of admiration and enthusiasm, and desired his mother to address him as "Le Citoyen Edward Fitzgerald." Shortly afterwards, he assisted at a dinner, given by the English in Paris, in honour of the successes of the French armies, at which meeting he publicly renounced his titles, and expressed his republican principles in such a manner, that he was, without inquiry, dismissed the British army. Whilst in France, he married Pamela, the adopted daughter of Madame de Genlis, and the reputed child of Philippe Egalité; shortly after which, he proceeded to Dublin, "where," says Mr. Moore, "he plunged at once into the political atmosphere, himself, more than suffi-

ciently excited." Here he joined the society called The United Irishmen; and also attached himself to an armed association, under the name of the first national battalion; which the viceroy having issued a proclamation to put down, an address, approving of the measure, was proposed in parliament, when Lord Edward exclaimed: "I give my most hearty disapprobation to that address; for I do think, that the lord-lieutenant, and the majority of this house, are the worst subjects the king has." "Take down his words," was immediately echoed from all parts of the house; "and being," says Mr. Moore, "permitted to explain, he did so with some humour, by repeating what he had before declared, adding, 'I am sorry for it;' which apology, after a debate, next day, of two hours' long, was accepted." At this period, treasonable associations were being organized over the whole of Ireland, and were defended by Lord Edward in parliament, who, some time afterwards, went to Paris to treat with the French directory on behalf of the conspirators. On his return to Ireland, he was suspected by the government, but he, nevertheless, continued his secret measures against it, till at length a warrant was issued for his apprehension, together with the other leaders of the conspiracy. He was, however, previously to his capture, afforded many opportunities of escape, of all of which he refused to avail himself, saying: "It is now out of the question; I am too deeply pledged to these men to be able to withdraw with honour." A thousand pounds was then offered for his apprehension; and information having, at length, been obtained of his retreat, he was secured, after a desperate struggle with his assailants, in which he killed Major Ryan, and was himself much wounded. On being lodged in prison, he was treated with great care and attention, and every exertion was made to procure his pardon, by his friends and relatives, who, it is said, were assisted in their endeavours by the Prince of Wales. During his cap

tivity, his illness increased to such a degree, that he occasionally became delirious, but towards its termination, he grew calm and composed, and died, with perfect resignation, on the 3d of June, 1798. Mr. Moore represents Lord Edward as the hero and the martyr of a good cause; and dedicates his biography to a lady, as the memoirs of her illustrious relative. He says, that the concession, late, but effectual, of those measures of emancipation and reform, which it was the first object of Lord Edward and his brave associates to obtain, has set a seal upon the general justice of them, which no power of courts or countries can ever do away. Lord Edward Fitzgerald possessed considerable mental powers and great personal bravery, but wanted that prudent command over his passions necessary to form a great civil, military, or political character. Being himself the slave of his own ardent impulses, they were capable of being so excited and worked upon as to render him the tool of others. General Sir John Doyle wrote of him: "Of my lamented and ill-fated friend's excellent qualities I should never tire in speaking. His frank and open manner, his universal benevolence, his *gaiete de coeur*, his valour almost chivalrous, and, above all, his unassuming tone, made him the idol of all who served with him. His affection for his family, and particularly for his mother, formed the most amiable point in his character, and his letters to her are full of the tenderest expressions of love and duty." His widow retired to Hamburgh, and married a second time in less than two years after his decease. The attainder was removed from his name some time afterwards.

ADMIRAL SIR ISAAC COFFIN.

Sir Isaac Coffin, was born on the 16th of May, 1759; and entered the service at the age of fourteen

years, in the Gaspée brig, on the American station. In 1778, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant, and appointed commander of the Placentia cutter, and was afterwards wrecked, in Le Penson, on the coast of Labrador. In November, 1779, he was nominated to the Adamant; and, in the succeeding year, convoyed a fleet of merchantmen to New York. He was next employed on the American coast; and, while at Halifax, in July, 1781, was advanced to the rank of commander. He was then, successively, appointed to the Avenger and Pachahunter; and being present in the latter during the fire at the town of St. John's, made such great exertions to extinguish the flames, that he was voted an address of thanks by the house of assembly. About 1789, whilst in command of the Thisbe, on the Halifax station, he was brought to a court-martial, for returning a false muster of his ship's company; a practice then in use, enabling young officers to serve their time at school or at home, without submitting themselves to the usual routine of a naval education. For this he was, in the first instance, dismissed from the command of his ship; but the matter coming under purview of the admiralty board, his name was altogether erased from the list of naval officers. Irritated at such treatment, he entered into the service of the Brabant patriots; but the proceedings of Earl Howe, and the other lords of the admiralty, having been declared illegal by the judges, he was reinstated in the king's service, as a post-captain. In the year 1790, he was commissioned to the Alligator, of twenty-eight guns: and, while lying at the Nore, he ruptured himself, by leaping into the water to save the life of a man who had fallen overboard. A similar accident occurred to him in 1793; and, on his recovery, he was intrusted with the regulation service at Leith; from October, 1795, to October, 1796, he was resident commissioner at Corsica; and, for two years after, he superintended the naval establishment at Lisbon. In 1798, he was intrusted with the

direction of the arsenal at Port Mahon, on the reduction of the island of Minorca. After other services, he was, on the 23d of April, 1804, made rear-admiral of the blue; and, on the 19th of May succeeding, was created a baronet. In April, 1808, he was advanced to be a vice-admiral; on the 4th of June, 1814, he was appointed admiral of the blue; and, on the demise of George the Fourth, held the same rank in the white squadron. In 1818, he was returned to parliament for Ilchester, and represented that place until the year 1826. He was married on the 3d of April, 1811, to Elizabeth Browne, only child of William Greenly, of Titley Court, Herefordshire, Esq.

ROBERT, LORD CLIVE.

Robert, the second son of Richard Clive, a lawyer, was born in Shropshire, on the 24th of February, 1725. He was sent, first, to a school at Lostock, in Cheshire; thence, to another at Market Drayton; thirdly, to Merchant Tailors'; and, finally, to a private academy, at Hemel Hempstead. In his boyhood and youth, he appears to have displayed a daring, turbulent disposition, and an unconquerable aversion to study. In 1743, he obtained an appointment as writer to the East India Company; and, in the following year, proceeded to Madras; where he applied himself with some diligence to the acquirement of Latin, but still evinced a haughty recklessness of spirit, which frequently exposed him to censure and disgrace. On one occasion, he was compelled, by the governor, to apologize, for some contumelious behaviour to a secretary; who, to show, perhaps, that the offence was entirely forgotten, invited the young cadet to his table. "No, sir," replied Clive, "I was not commanded to dine with you."

In 1746, Madras surrendered to the French; but circumstances soon occurred which justified the Eng-

lish, it is said, in breaking their parole; and Clive, disguised as a Moor, escaped to St. David's. At this place, he gave a strong proof of his inflexible resolution. Two ensigns having been detected in a combination to cheat Clive and some other persons, at a card party, the losers, for some time, objected to hand over the stakes; but at length, all of them were bullied into compliance, with the exception of Clive, who, persisting in his refusal, was challenged by one of the gamblers. He cheerfully gave his antagonist a meeting; at which it was agreed that both parties should discharge together. Clive, accordingly, fired on the signal being given; but the reprobate ensign, treacherously reserved his shot, and quitting his ground, presented the pistol to Clive's head, and commanded him to ask for his life. After some hesitation, Clive complied; but the ensign still threatened to blow out his brains, if he did not immediately recant what he had said at the card table, and promise to pay his share of the loss. "Fire, and be d—d, then!" said Clive; "I said you cheated, I say so still, and I never will pay you." The ensign called him a madman, and threw away his pistol. When subsequently complimented for his behaviour on this occasion, Clive said, "The man has given me my life, and I have no right, in future, to mention his behaviour at the card table; but I never will pay him, or keep him company."

Disgusted with the inactivity of the civil service, Clive, in 1747, obtained an ensigncy, and distinguished himself at the siege of Pondicherry. An officer having, about this time, cast some reflections on his courage, Clive demanded an explanation; but, in return, received a blow on the ear. The officer refused to accept a challenge, and on patiently submitting to the insult of having Clive's cane laid on his head, was dismissed the service. At Devi Cotah, a fort of the Rajah of Tanjore, Clive, then a lieutenant, obtained permission (though it was not his turn) to

lead the forlorn hope, of which, only three individuals besides himself, escaped with life, and the reduction of the fort was in a great measure attributed to his valour.

At the close of the war, he was admitted to the same rank in the civil service that he would have attained had he not abandoned it; and, through the friendship of Major Lawrence, who had commanded at Devi Cotah, he received the lucrative appointment of commissary-general. The fatigues he had suffered brought on a nervous fever; which, however, his strong constitution enabled him to overcome; and when war broke out again, in 1751, he proceeded, with the rank of captain, to the attack of Arcot. The garrison, panic-struck with an account they had received of the British army being seen marching with great unconcern, through a violent storm of thunder and lightning, surrendered the fort without resistance. By his humanity, and honourable treatment of their property, he conciliated the natives, and gained from them important intelligence of the enemy's designs.

The French attempted to retake the fort. It was a mile in circumference: the works were in ruin; two breaches, (one thirty yards in extent,) were made in the wall; the garrison was reduced from five hundred to two hundred men; three serjeants, and his lieutenant, were killed by the side of Clive; who, however, at the end of seven weeks, compelled the French to abandon the siege; and, on receiving a reinforcement, gallantly engaged, and totally defeated them. After assisting to raise the siege of Trinchinopoly, he returned to England, in 1753; when, as an acknowledgment of his meritorious services, an elegant diamond-hilted sword, of the value of 700*l.*, was voted to him by the East India Company; which, however, he would not accept, until a similar honour had been conferred on his friend, Major Lawrence, on whom he subsequently settled 500*l.* a year.

Being appointed governor of Fort St. David's, he

soon embarked again for India; and, in conjunction with Admiral Watson, took the stronghold of the pirate Angria. He increased his reputation, in 1756, at the capture of Calcutta; and, in the following year, attacked the Nabob of Bengal, with only seven hundred Europeans, and compelled him to enter into a treaty that was highly advantageous to the company. He soon afterwards took the French settlement of Chandenagore, notwithstanding the interposition of Surajah Dowlah; who, threatening to re-enact the atrocities of which he had been guilty at Calcutta, where he had suffocated many of his prisoners in the notorious black hole, and evincing, in other respects, a virulent animosity against the British, Clive, feeling that the company's power in India could never be secure, until this barbarous potentate was rendered harmless, either by force or stratagem, determined on deposing him. With this view, he opened a communication with Meer Jaffier, one of the nabob's officers, who having been deeply offended by his master, cheerfully agreed to assist in dethroning the nabob, with whose dignities it was agreed, that he should, in return for his services, be invested. A Gentoo merchant, named Omichund, was employed to conduct the correspondence: his recompense had already been stipulated; but, when the negotiation was so far advanced, that Watts, the British resident at the nabob's capital, who had borne a share in it, as well as Meer Jaffier, were completely in his power, the rapacious traitor insisted on an enormous additional sum being effectually secured to him. He, however, had to deal with a man, who, in such a transaction, felt no scruples at defeating villany by fraud. Clive caused two treaties to be drawn up between Meer Jaffier and the English agents, in one of which the exorbitant demand of Omichund was guaranteed, while, in the other, it was totally omitted. The former only being shown to Omichund, he duly performed the part that was allotted to him in this iniquitous scheme, which

being discountenanced by Admiral Watson, his signature to the fictitious treaty, was, it is said, forged.

Mean while, the nabob having obtained information of the plot, frustrated it, for a time, by compelling Meer Jaffier to swear fidelity to him, and join his army against the British. Clive, being ignorant of this proceeding, marched towards the nabob's capital, expecting, hourly, to be joined by the traitor. The battle of Plassey ensued; in which, partly by Clive's skill, and the bravery of his troops, but materially on account of the terror with which the enemy regarded the British, and principally, perhaps, through the villany of Meer Jaffier, the nabob's enormous army was routed with great slaughter, and his power effectually crushed.

Meer Jaffier now became nabob, and presented Clive with 210,000*l.*, for originating, and carrying into effect, the conspiracy against Surajah Dowlah. The merchant Omichund, then confidently applied for his expected reward, but was informed that he had nothing to receive, the treaty which he had seen having been framed expressly to cheat him. This information drove him mad, and he continued in a state of idiocy up to the day of his death, which took place about eighteen months afterwards. Clive suppressed two rebellions against the new nabob, but artfully made terms with a third competitor for Surajah Dowlah's dignity, with a view to prevent his own puppet, Meer Jaffier, from growing too independent of the British.

For his valuable services to the company, Clive was appointed governor of Calcutta; and, after having forced the great mogul's son to raise the siege of Patna, attacked and defeated a Dutch force, which had reached Bengal, for the purpose, as it was alleged, of reinforcing the garrisons of the Dutch company in India; but, as Clive suspected, by the invitation of the nabob, to emancipate him from the yoke of the English. On this occasion, the Dutch were so utterly

discomfited, that they agreed to defray the expenses of the contest; and the attack was no less honourable to the disinterestedness, than to the acuteness, of Clive; for he had, but a short time before, remitted to Europe two-thirds of his fortune through the Dutch company; England being, at that time, and even when the action took place, at peace with Holland.

The Emperor of Delhi now conferred upon him the dignity of omrah; Meer Jaffier granted him a revenue of 28,000*l.* per annum; and, on his return to England, he was created Baron Clive, of Plassey, in Ireland, and returned to parliament as member for Shrewsbury, which place he represented during the remainder of his life. The public were too much dazzled with his success to investigate the means by which it had been produced; and, for a considerable period, few men enjoyed more popularity than "the hero of Plassey."

He was offered, but refused, on account of ill health, the chief command in the American war: in July, 1764, he, however, accepted the governor-generalship of India, whither he immediately proceeded. Before his arrival, Meer Jaffier had been deposed and again restored; and the Nabob of Oude, having succoured Cossum Aly Khan, the temporary possessor of his dignity, had also been defeated by the British forces under Major Adams; so that Lord Clive had merely to settle the terms of an arrangement, which he did, materially to the company's advantage.

On returning to England, in 1769, he was made a knight of the Bath; but he did not enjoy his honours and riches in peace. A charge, supported by the minister, was brought forward in the house of commons against him, in 1773, for having, in the acquisition of his wealth, abused the powers with which he had been intrusted. With the assistance of Wedderburne, he made a capital defence, which he concluded in the following terms:—"If the resolution proposed should receive the assent of the house, I

shall have nothing left that I can call my own, except my paternal income of 500*l.* a year, which has been in the family for ages past. But upon this I am content to live; and, perhaps, I shall find more real content of mind and happiness, than in the trembling affluence of an unsettled fortune. But to be called, after sixteen years have elapsed, to account for my conduct in this manner; and, after an uninterrupted enjoyment of my property, to be questioned, and considered as obtaining it unwarrantably, is hard indeed, and a treatment of which I should not think the British senate capable. Yet, if this should be the case, I have a conscious innocence within me, that tells me my conduct is irreproachable. *Frangas, non flectes:* they may take from me what I have; they may, as they think, make me poor; but I will be happy. Before I sit down, I have one request to make to the house;—that, when they come to decide upon my honour, they will not forget their own." The accusation against him was neither refuted nor declared to be groundless; the house having concluded the debate on the subject, with a vote that Lord Clive had rendered great and meritorious services to his country.

His constitution had never recovered from the effects of the nervous fever, produced by fatigue during the early part of his military career; and his health being now completely broken, and his high spirit irritated by the proceedings against him in parliament, he became morbidly depressed; and, at length, on the 22d of November, 1774, put an end to his existence. He was, at that time, lord-lieutenant and custos rotulorum of the counties of Salop and Montgomery, doctor of laws, and fellow of the royal society. By his wife, a sister of Dr. Maskelyne, astronomer royal, he had three daughters and two sons.

As a father, a husband, and a friend, the conduct of Lord Clive is said to have been irreproachable. His manners were reserved among strangers; but,

with his intimates, he was lively, frank, and agreeable. He seldom spoke in the house of commons, although it is clear, from his few speeches, that he possessed considerable powers of eloquence. In person, he was rather above the middle size; and his brow, naturally heavy on account of a fulness above the eyelid, is described as having imparted a sullen and disagreeable expression to his countenance.

As a soldier, his intrepidity has rarely been equalled; and his skill as a commander, was, evidently, on a par with his courage. He raised himself to eminence by talents, on which he relied implicitly to support it. He never called but one council of war, (on the eve of the battle of Plassey,) and then acted in direct opposition to its advice. Utterly careless of life, his presence of mind never forsook him; and his energy invariably rose in proportion to the difficulty and distress of his situation. The East India Company never had a more zealous, gifted, and efficient commander. He found its power dreadfully depressed, its forts in the hands of the enemy, its revenues diminished, and its very existence threatened with destruction: he left it in peaceful possession of immense revenues, and dominant over fifteen millions of people. Nor was this all: for he contributed materially to the annihilation of its rivals, the French and Dutch, and laid the foundation of future victories, and further acquirements of territory, riches, and influence. He seems to have been actuated by one strong leading principle,—the aggrandizement of the company; to which, even the advancement of his own fortunes was evidently secondary. His plot with Meer Jaffier, against the Nabob Surajah Dowlah, notwithstanding the previous atrocities of the latter, and however advantageous it may have been to the company and himself, was grossly unjustifiable; his trick upon Omichund, though successful, was mean and contemptible; and his acceptance of Meer Jaffier's enormous donation, was, under the circumstances,

derogatory to the character of a soldier and a man of honour. To his credit, it is stated, that he was a liberal supporter of benevolent institutions, and presented, to the invalids of the East India Company, the immense sum of 70,000*l.*

GENERAL WOLFE.

James, the son of Lieutenant-General Edward Wolfe, was born at Westerham, in Kent, in 1726. He entered very early into the army, and devoted himself, with ardour, not only to the acquisition of professional, but of general knowledge. During a visit to a professor, at the University of Glasgow, he felt so mortified at finding the conversation turn on subjects with which he was totally unacquainted, that, on the following day, he waited again on the professor, and earnestly besought the latter to put him in the way of acquiring that information, of which he had found himself so deficient. His desire being complied with, he forthwith entered upon a course of study prescribed by the professor, which he continued to pursue with extraordinary zeal during the residue of his stay at Glasgow, where his regiment was then quartered.

In the German war, during which he obtained the lieutenancy of the twentieth regiment of foot, then commanded by Kingsley, he acquired great reputation for his courage and military skill, particularly at the battle of Laffeldt, although it took place when he was not above twenty years of age. In 1757, he accompanied the inglorious expedition against Rochefort as quarter-master-general, and vainly recommended an attempt at landing. Pitt, afterwards Earl of Chatham, who was then premier, felt much dissatisfied at the conduct of those who had been intrusted with the chief command on this occasion; Wolfe, on the contrary, was applauded and promoted; and, after

he had acquired an increase of reputation as a soldier, at the capture of Louisburg, he was judiciously placed, with the rank of major-general, at the head of the forces destined to act against Quebec.

He accordingly embarked, with about eight thousand men, on board the fleet, commanded by Admiral Saunders, and arrived, at the latter end of June, 1759, in the river St. Lawrence. Montcalm, an experienced French general, at the head of ten thousand men, having posted himself in a strong situation, on what was deemed the only accessible side of Quebec, Wolfe, by a variety of manœuvres, attempted to decoy him into an engagement: but Montcalm resolved to risk nothing; wisely relying on the natural strength of the country, and his numerous troops of the wary natives, which were so posted, that to surprise him appeared impossible. At length, Wolfe determined on attacking the French in their entrenchments; but, notwithstanding his prudence and skill, the attempt was altogether unsuccessful, and he brought off his troops with some difficulty, after they had suffered a considerable loss.

The failure of some operations that he subsequently attempted, the rapid advance of the season, the inflexible resolution of Montcalm to act only on the defensive, produced a most serious effect on his spirits; and his constitution, naturally delicate, became materially ...ed by anxiety and fatigue. But, having partial... ...ered, he renewed his attempts, to bring Montcalm to an engagement, with increased energy. After amusing and deceiving the enemy by several feints, he embarked with his forces about one in the morning of the 13th of September, 1759, and drifted with the tide, unobserved by the enemy's sentinels, who were posted along the shore, with a view to gain the heights at the back of the town; but, unfortunately, the current carried the boats beyond the spot where he had intended to land; and when the troops were put on shore, they found a steep hill in front of

them, having only one path, which was so narrow, that not even two men could ascend it abreast.

"Even the path," says a historian of the war, "was entrenched, and a captain's guard defended it; but these difficulties did not abate the hopes of the general, nor the ardour of the troops. The light infantry, under Colonel Howe, taking hold of stumps and boughs of trees, pulled themselves up, dislodged the guards, and cleared the path; then, all the troops, surmounting every obstacle, gained the top of the hill; and, as fast as they ascended, formed themselves, so that they were all in order of battle by daybreak. Montcalm, when he heard that the English had ascended the hill, and were formed on the high ground at the back of the town, scarcely credited the intelligence, and still believed it to be a feint to induce him to abandon that strong post, which had been the object of all the real attempts that had been made since the beginning of the campaign. But he was soon, and, fatally for him, undeceived. He saw clearly, that the English fleet was in such a situation, that the upper and lower town of Quebec might be at once attacked, and that nothing but a battle could possibly save it."

Quitting his entrenchments, Montcalm rapidly crossed the river St. Charles, and formed his troops opposite the British, with admirable skill. In pursuance of the orders issued by Wolfe, his men reserved their fire until the French had approached within forty yards of them. Their first discharge, consequently, produced great havoc in the enemy's lines: "but," says the author before quoted, "just at the moment when the fortune of the field began to declare itself, General Wolfe, in whom every thing seemed included, fell." He first received a ball in the wrist, but silently tied a handkerchief about the wound, and again cheered his troops to the attack: soon afterwards, another struck him in the abdomen; of which, however, he said nothing, but continued to exert him-

self as before: in a few moments, a third took place in his breast; and he then suffered himself, though somewhat reluctantly, to be carried behind the ranks.

Notwithstanding his wounds, he still appeared acutely solicitous as to the event of the battle, and requested an attendant to take him to a spot where he might have a nearer view of the field; but, on being carried thither, the near approach of death had so dimmed his sight, that he could not distinctly perceive what was going forward. He, therefore, applied for information to an officer who stood near him; and the latter, to the expiring hero's intense delight, acquainted him that the French lines seemed to be broken. In a few minutes, a cry of "They run!—They run!" was heard. "Who run?" inquired Wolfe, with trembling eagerness. On being told, in reply, that the French ran, and were utterly routed, he said, in a faint, but composed tone, "Thank God! I die contented!" and immediately expired.

The remains of the gallant general, who had thus expired at the moment of victory, were deposited in a vault at Greenwich, which had, but a few months before, received those of his father. A monument was erected to his memory at Westerham, and another, at the public expense, in Westminster abbey. He was never married, but had, it is said, been betrothed to a lady, with whom his nuptials would have been solemnized, had it been his fortune to have returned from the scene of his glory. It is related, that the people of the village where his widowed mother resided, forbore, with admirable good feeling, to join in the illumination with which the public in general celebrated his victory.

The career of Wolfe was brief, but splendid. It has been truly said of him, that, "unindebted to family or connexions, unsupported by intrigue or faction, he had accomplished the whole business of life at a time when others are only beginning to appear." His powers were great, and his confidence in them daring,

but still not rash. He was brave in the most unqualified acceptation of the term; his zeal for the service enabled him to bear up for a long time against excessive fatigue, notwithstanding the weakness of his constitution; and an intense anxiety not to discourage his troops at a critical moment, rendered him heedless to the anguish which his wounds must have occasioned him. Though young, he was an adept in military tactics; and those operations by which he eventually forced the experienced Montcalm to quit his entrenchments, have, as it appears, with propriety, been termed "so many master-pieces in the art of war."

CHARLES MORDAUNT, EARL OF PETERBOROUGH.

Charles Mordaunt, son of the profligate Viscount Mordaunt, was born in 1658, and succeeded his father in title and estate in 1675. In his youth he served under Admirals Torrington and Narborough, against Algiers, and distinguished himself at Tangier, in Africa, when that place was besieged by the Moors. Averse to the arbitrary proceedings of James, he strenuously opposed the repeal of the test act, and forseeing that some great political change would speedily occur, opened a communication with the Prince of Orange. He soon after went over to Holland, and, accompanying William to England, was sworn in of the privy-counsel, appointed lord of the bed-chamber, and lord commissioner of the treasury; and, a few days before the coronation, was created Earl of Monmouth. This title he is reported to have solicited in order to prevent the children of the Duke of Monmouth, for whom he had always professed the highest regard, from being restored to their unfortunate father's rank.

He served in Flanders throughout the campaign of

1692, and enjoyed the full confidence of William, until his natural giddiness, in running from party to party, deprived him of the royal favour. In 1697, he disgraced himself by an attempt to suborn Sir John Fenwick to accuse the Duke of Shrewsbury and Lord Orford of a design to restore King James; he also, by the assistance of Dr. D'Avenant, wrote a book against the duke, to which he affixed the name of Smith. His intrigues being discovered, he was committed a prisoner to the Tower; the peers ordered the work in question to be burnt by the hands of the common hangman; and the house of commons voted his conduct a scandalous design to create differences between the king and his majesty's best friends. In the same year he succeeded his uncle, who had been a very abandoned character, as Earl of Peterborough.

On the accession of Queene Anne, he was appointed captain-general of the plantations in America, and governor of Jamaica; but Marlborough, returning from Holland before the commission had passed the seals, represented to government the impropriety of committing so important a trust to one of such a fiery and uncertain temper, and the appointment was, consequently, revoked. Incensed by this disappointment, the earl acted in opposition to government, until he was constituted general and commander-in-chief of the forces sent to the assistance of Charles the Third of Spain, and joint admiral of the fleet with Sir Cloudesley Shovel. He sailed from England in May, 1705, and, arriving at his destination, published a manifesto, in the Spanish language, which had such an effect upon the inhabitants, that they crowded to his standard, and acknowledged Charles the Third as their lawful sovereign. His first exploit was the siege of Barcelona, which surrendered, after a vigorous attack; and, in a few days, King Charles made his entrance in triumph. Pending the arrangements for its capitulation, the governor complained to the earl, that some soldiers, who had climbed over the

walls, were committing the most barbarous excesses against the inhabitants. "They must be the troops of the Prince of Hesse," replied Peterborough; "allow me to enter the city with my English forces,—I will save it from ruin, and afterwards return to my present situation." The governor accepted this offer; and Peterborough, after expelling the Germans, restoring their plunder to its owners, rescuing the Duchess of Popoli from two brutal ruffians, and conducting her in safety to her husband, returned, as he had promised, to his former station.

He next marched to the relief of San Matheo, a place of great consequence, which was then invested by six thousand men, under the Conde de las Torres, whom, by means of false intelligence, Peterborough induced to abandon the siege. He afterwards relieved Barcelona, when greatly distressed by the enemy; and, with ten thousand men, drove the Duke of Anjou, at the head of twenty-five thousand French, out of Spain; gained possession of Catalonia, Valencia, Arragon, and Majorca, with part of Murcia and Castile, and enabled Lord Gallway to advance to Madrid without the slightest opposition. For these services he was declared a general in Spain, by Charles, and was appointed, by Queen Anne, ambassador extraordinary to adjust all matters of state and traffic between the two kingdoms. Charles, however, soon afterwards transmitted to England some charges against the earl, who was, consequently, recalled; but, on his conduct being investigated by the peers, they thought proper to vote him their thanks in the most solemn manner, for his zeal and services.

In 1710, he was employed in embassies to Vienna and several of the Italian courts. While thus diplomatically engaged, he travelled with such speed that the British ministers used to say they wrote *at*, rather than *to* him. From the rapidity of his movements, and the number of his missions to crowned heads, he is said to have seen more postillions and princes than

any man in Europe. While at Turin, it is stated, on the testimony of an eye-witness, that he walked about his room, dictating, to as many amanuenses, nine letters at once, on different subjects, and addressed to different persons.

On his return to England he was made colonel of the royal regiment of horse guards, general of marines, and lord-lieutenant and custos rotulorum of the county of Northampton. In 1713, he received the insignia of the Garter, and was sent ambassador to Sicily, and other Italian powers. In 1714, he was appointed governor of Minorca; and in the reigns of George the First and Second, was general of the marine forces in Great Britain.

On the death of his first wife, a Miss Fraser, in 1720, he married the celebrated and beautiful singer, Anastasia Robinson, whom he had previously, but unsuccessfully, attempted to seduce. Before he was united to her, it is related, that at an opera rehearsal, he severely caned Senesino, a musical performer, who had given her some offence. Although much attached to her, his pride would not allow him to acknowledge her as his wife, and she, consequently, declined to reside under his roof, until the period of his last illness, when he consented to receive her publicly by her legitimate title.

In the latter part of his life he ceased to figure as an important person, and, from his retirement in the country, railed at the decline of public virtue, and the mercenary spirit of the age. Having long suffered under a painful complaint, he was, at length, compelled to undergo a lithotomical operation at Bristol. The surgeon, as usual, wished to have him bound, but after much warm discussion on the subject, the earl positively declared, it should never be said, that a Mordaunt was seen tied hand and foot. He then desired to be placed in a posture most advantageous for the operation, in which he remained, without flinching, until it was over. Three weeks after he

arrived at Bevis Mount, where he received the countess, who is said to have behaved towards him with much tenderness. Although his sufferings were great, he received and conversed with crowds of persons, who came from Southampton to visit him. His recovery appearing more than doubtful, he began to dwell upon subjects of a solemn nature; but such was the restlessness of his spirit, that although assured of his incapacity to bear the fatigues of a voyage, he determined on embarking, with the countess, for Lisbon; the climate of which, he faintly hoped would restore him to health. He, however, died during the passage, on the 25th of October, 1745. His remains were brought to England, and buried at Turvey, in Bedfordshire. He had two sons by his first wife, neither of whom survived him. They were both depraved, and appear to have partaken of that slight taint of insanity, with which their father, as well as his immediate predecessors in the title, were evidently afflicted.

The earl was of a tall and graceful figure, and had strikingly the look of a nobleman, although so thin that Swift called him a skeleton. Even his peculiarities, says Walpole, were becoming in him, as he had a natural ease that immediately adopted and saved them from the air of affectation. A fine portrait of him was painted by Kneller.

In politics he had no fixed principles, having changed sides as often as the Vicar of Bray. His romantic courage has procured him a lofty reputation as a commander, to which he does not appear to have been justly entitled. Active, enterprising, and Quixotic, he delighted in difficulties, and never, says one of his panegyrists, employed a hundred men on any expedition, without accompanying them himself. He frequently arrived at great ends by inadequate means; and professed those qualities which, as a partisan, would have rendered him almost without an equal. But he displayed none of the calm judgment and

severe prudence necessary for the command of a large army. It is true that, while in Spain, he was, on the whole, successful; but the most brilliant of his exploits have, with great felicity of expression, been designated as "happy temerities."

His conduct at Barcelona was truly chivalrous; and he did all in his power to cultivate a high feeling of honour among his troops; any aggression against whom, on the other hand, he punished, whenever it was possible, with conspicuous rigour. On one occasion, he hung a Spaniard, who had killed a British officer, at the knocker of his own door. Though frugal of the public purse, he liberally expended his own money for the benefit of his troops; and when, through the trickery of some Spanish functionaries, he had been despoiled of his baggage, worth about 8,000*l.*, he refused to accept any private compensation for the loss, but insisted on being furnished with corn sufficient to maintain his forces for several months.

His love of glory and military renown was tarnished by an affectation of vulgar popularity, which he endeavoured to gain by frequenting coffee-houses, and public places. He was once mistaken by the mob for the Duke of Marlborough, at a time when his grace was very unpopular, but saved himself from rough usage, with which he was threatened, by the following pithy address: "Gentlemen, I can convince you, by two reasons, that I am not the duke;—in the first place, I have only five guineas in my pocket; and, in the second, (throwing his purse to the multitude as he spoke,) they are heartily at your service."

The brilliancy of his exploits abroad was oddly contrasted with some of the eccentricities of his conduct at home. On one occasion, he leaped out of his carriage for the purpose of driving, sword in hand, a dancing-master, clad in pearl-coloured stockings, who was carefully crossing a dirty street, into the mud. Cookery was as much his hobby as war. It appears to have been far from unusual for him to assist at the

preparation of a feast over which he was about to preside; and when at Bath, he was occasionally seen about the streets, in his blue riband and star, carrying a chicken in his hand, and a cabbage, perhaps, under each arm.

He was intimate with Swift, Gay, Dryden, Pope, and most other wits and authors of the age in which he lived. To Pope, who was his frequent guest and companion, he presented, on his death-bed, a valuable watch, which had been given to him by the king of Sicily. He wrote a severe copy of verses against the Duchess of Marlborough, whom he alternately flattered and reviled. He also composed his own memoirs, which, however, after his death, were committed, by the countess, to the flames; and expressed an intention, if he lived, "to give that rascal, Burnet, the lie in half his history:" for this purpose he had marked both of the volumes, in several parts of the margin, and carried them with him to Lisbon. His letters were once extolled as models of an elegant epistolary style, but the publication of his correspondence with the Countess of Suffolk has much diminished his previous reputation as a writer. He is said to have been an exquisite penman, and to have punctuated and spelt much more accurately than the greater part of his literary contemporaries.

"His enmity," says Horace Walpole, "to the Duke of Marlborough, and his friendship with Pope, will preserve his name, when his genius, too romantic to have laid a solid foundation for fame, and his politics, too disinterested for his age and country, shall be equally forgotten." Bishop Burnet, with great truth, calls him "a man of much heat, many notions, full of discourse, brave and generous—with little true judgment, and no virtue." He was loose in his manners, and remarkably sensual. While in Spain, he set no bounds to the gratification of his desires, and once pointed some artillery against a convent, in which a beautiful woman of rank had taken refuge,

so that by terrifying her to come forth, he might obtain a view of her admirable person.

He was vain, passionate, and inconstant; a mocker of christianity, and had, according to his own voluntary confession, committed three capital crimes before he was of the age of twenty. He once went to hear Penn preach, "because," as he said, "'twas his way to be civil to all religions." During a visit to Fenelon, at Cambray, the virtues of that amiable man appear to have made some impression on him, so that, as he states, "he was obliged to get away from the delicious creature as fast as he could, lest he should become pious." While Voltaire was in England, the earl employed him to write a book, and furnished him with money to pay the printer during its progress through the press. Voltaire, however, appropriated the money to his own uses. At this time he was a visiter at Peterborough house, Parsons' green, where the printer, being unable to go on for want of supplies, called one evening, in order to obtain an advance. Meeting the earl in the grounds, he proceeded to state the cause of his visit; on hearing which, Peterborough, perceiving Voltaire at a short distance, rushed towards him, sword in hand, in such a paroxysm of rage, that the philosopher of Ferney, it is said, with great difficulty, and by speed alone saved himself from destruction.

EDWARD PELLEW, VISCOUNT EXMOUTH.

This admiral, second son of Samuel Pellew, Esq. was born at Dover, on the 19th of April, 1757; and, in 1771, accompanied Captain Stott, in the Juno frigate, to take possession of the places discovered by Byron. He subsequently went to the Mediterranean with the same officer, who, on account of some mis-

understanding between them, put him on shore at Marseilles.

On the breaking out of the American war, he joined the Blonde frigate, in which he sailed to the relief of Quebec; and soon after removed to the Carleton, in which he distinguished himself in the battle fought on Lake Champlain, on the 11th of October, 1776. In 1777, he was taken prisoner, with General Burgoyne's forces, at Saratoga; in 1780, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant; and, subsequently, served on the Flemish coast, in the Apollo frigate; which, while cruising near Ostend, lost her captain, in a smart action with the Stanislaus, a vessel pierced for thirty-two guns, but carrying only twenty-six. Both ships suffered severely in this encounter, which terminated in the escape of the Stanislaus to the harbour of Ostend.

For his conduct on this occasion, Pellew obtained the command of the Hazard sloop, stationed in the North Sea; and, on the 31st of May, 1782, he was promoted to the rank of post-captain. In 1783, he commanded the Dictator, of sixty-four guns, in the Medway; and afterwards, the Salisbury, of fifty guns, on the Newfoundland station. During this period, he twice jumped overboard, to save a fellow-creature from drowning; though, on one of these occasions, he was labouring under a severe indisposition.

At the commencement of the war with the French republic, he obtained the command of the Nymphe; with which, while on a cruise in the channel, he captured a French frigate, called the Cleopatra, after a remarkably close and well-contested action. For this service, Captain Pellew was immediately knighted, and appointed to the Arethusa, of forty-four guns, attached to Admiral Warren's squadron. On the 23d of April, 1794, the Arethusa, and three of her consorts, while cruising off Guernsey, fell in with four of the enemy, of which, after a spirited action, they

captured three. On the 23d of the following August, he succeeded, with the boats of the fleet, in destroying a French frigate and two corvettes, which had been driven on shore by the British fleet; and, in October, while cruising off Ushant, with a small squadron, under his own command, he captured a large French frigate, called the Artois. In the early part of 1795, being then under Admiral Warren, he was directed to attack a French convoy, of which he captured seven, and destroyed eleven vessels, within sight of the Isle of Aix. Shortly afterwards, he was again placed at the head of a small squadron, with which he took and destroyed fifteen sail of coasting-vessels.

On the 6th of January, 1796, he performed a noble action at Plymouth. The Dutton, East Indiaman, being driven in by stress of weather, struck near the citadel, and the sea broke over her, until all her masts went by the board, and fell towards the shore, the ship heeling off with her side to seaward. At this critical moment, Sir Edward Pellew, observing that the gale increased, and knowing that the flood tide would make a complete wreck of the vessel, earnestly entreated some of the spectators to accompany him on board, to attempt rescuing the crew; but the port-admiral's signal midshipman, Mr. Edsell, alone volunteered his services. With great difficulty and danger, by means of a single rope, they reached the wreck, from which they succeeded in getting a hawser on shore, and saved the whole crew. For this heroic act, Pellew received the freedom of Plymouth; and, in the following March, was raised to the dignity of a baronet.

He shortly afterwards went on a cruise with the Indefatigable, and four other frigates; during which, he captured a fleet of French merchantmen, L'Unité, of thirty-eight guns and two hundred and fifty-five men, and La Virginie, of forty-four guns and three hundred and forty men. On the 13th of January,

1797, with his own frigate, and the Amazon, he attacked a large French ship, off Ushant; from which, however, after an engagement of five hours' duration, he was compelled to sheer off, for the purpose of securing his masts. During the action, the sea, it is said, constantly ran so high, that his men were often up to their waists in water; and, in the course of the following night, the Indefatigable narrowly escaped being wrecked. The next morning, when her commander intended to have renewed the battle, he perceived the enemy lying on her broadside, with a tremendous surf beating over her. At five o'clock, the Amazon struck the ground; but the whole of her crew, with the exception of six, who stole away in the cutter and were drowned, reached the shore, where they surrendered as prisoners of war. Of those on board the French ship, which proved to be Les Droits des Hommes, of eighty guns, upwards of thirteen hundred unfortunately perished.

In addition to the prizes already mentioned, Sir Edward Pellew's squadron had, up to the end of 1798, captured sixteen armed vessels and privateers, mounting, in the whole, two hundred and thirty-eight guns. He continued to serve in the Indefatigable until the spring of the next year, when he removed to the Impetueux; and, in 1800, he was despatched, with a fleet of eighteen sail, to co-operate, in Quiberon Bay, with the French royalists. This expedition, as well as a subsequent one to Belleisle, being attended with no success, the squadron under his command proceeded to blockade Port Louis, in the Mediterranean; where one of his lieutenants captured a French brig, called Le Cerbere. He soon after accompanied Admiral Warren on the expedition against Ferrol; and, served subsequently, for a short time, under the orders of Admiral Cornwallis. In 1802, he became a colonel of marines, and member of parliament for Barnstaple; in which latter capacity he made an able speech in defence of Earl St. Vincent, who was then

at the head of the admiralty, on the 15th of March, 1804, when a motion was made for an inquiry respecting the naval defence of the country.

On the renewal of hostilities, he was appointed to the Tonnant, of eighty guns; on which occasion with a view to procure the services of a respectable schoolmaster for the ship, he offered, by advertisement, to add 50*l.* to the government allowance, out of his own pockets. Having shortly afterwards taken a ship, on board of which the wife of a French deputy had embarked with 3,000*l.*, the produce of her property, to join her husband in banishment, at Cayenne, he restored to her the whole of the sum, and paid, from his private purse, that share of it to which his subordinates were entitled.

He was next employed, with the rank of rear-admiral of the white, as commander-in-chief, on the East India station. In 1806, he took, or destroyed, thirty vessels at Batavia; and in the following year, completely annihilated the Dutch naval force in the East Indies. On the 28th of April, 1808, he was made vice-admiral of the blue; and, after having received an address of thanks from the ship-owners and underwriters of Bombay, he returned, in 1809, to England.

In 1810, he hoisted his flag on board the Christian VII., and was employed at the blockade of Flushing. He subsequently removed to the Caledonia, of one hundred and twenty guns, and succeeded Sir Charles Cotton, as commander-in-chief on the Mediterranean station. In 1814, he was elevated to the peerage, by the title of Baron Exmouth, of Canonteign, and made admiral of the blue. On the 2d of January, 1815, he became a knight companion of the Bath; and, on the return of Bonaparte from Elba, he assisted, with a squadron, at the reduction of Toulon, and the restoration of the King of Naples.

In March, 1816, he sailed to Algiers, Tunis, and Tripoli; whence, after having concluded treaties for

the abolition of Christian slavery, (*inter alia*,) he returned to England in June. On the 20th of the next month, the Algerines having already violated the terms of their treaty, he was directed to hoist his flag on board the Queen Charlotte, of one hundred and eight guns, and proceed with a squadron to obtain satisfaction. He arrived off Algiers, with fifteen sail of the line, four bombs, and six Dutch frigates, on the 27th of August. Early the next morning, he sent a boat ashore, with a flag of truce, to announce the demands of the British government. After a delay of three hours, during which a sea-breeze enabled the fleet to get into the bay, the boat was seen returning, with a signal that no answer had been obtained. Lord Exmouth immediately made his final preparations for the attack that ensued, of which the following, with a few abridgements, is the account published by his secretary:—"I remained on the poop with his lordship, till the Queen Charlotte passed through all the enemy's batteries, without firing a gun. There were many thousand Turks and Moors looking on, astonished to see so large a ship coming, all at once, inside the mole; opposite the head of which she took her station, in so masterly a manner, that not more than four or five guns could bear upon her from it. She was, however, exposed to the fire of all their other batteries and musketry.

"At a few minutes before three, the Algerines fired the first shot, at the Impregnable. Lord Exmouth, seeing only the smoke of the gun, before the sound reached him, said, with great alacrity, 'That will do! Fire, my fine fellows!'—and before his lordship had finished these words, our broadside was given. There being a great crowd of people, the first fire was so terrible, that, they say, more than five hundred of the Turks were killed and wounded; and, after the first discharge, I saw many running away under the walls, upon their hands and feet.

"My ears being deafened by the roar of the guns,

I began to descend the quarter-deck. The companies of the two guns nearest the hatchway wanted wadding; but not having it immediately, they cut off the breasts of their jackets, and rammed them into their guns instead. At this time, the Queen Charlotte had received several shots between wind and water. All the time of the battle, not one seaman lamented the dreadful continuation of the fight; but, on the contrary, the longer it lasted, the more cheerfulness and pleasure was amongst them, notwithstanding the firing was most tremendous on our side, particularly from the Queen Charlotte, which never slackened nor ceased, though his lordship several times desired it, to make his observations. At eleven o'clock, p. m. his lordship having observed the destruction of the whole Algerine navy, and the strongest part of their batteries, with the city, made signal to the fleet, to move out of the line of the batteries; and, with a favourable breeze, we cut our cables, with the rest of the fleet, and made sail, when our firing ceased, at about half-past eleven. When I met his lordship on the poop, his voice was quite hoarse, and he had two slight wounds, one in the cheek, the other in the leg; and it was astonishing to see the coat of his lordship, how it was all cut up by musket-ball, and grape; it was, indeed, as if a person had taken a pair of scissors, and cut it all to pieces. The gunner of the Queen Charlotte, an old man of seventy, said, 'that in his life, he had been in more than twenty actions, but that he never knew or heard of any action, that had consumed so great a quantity of powder.'"

The consequences of this attack were, a public apology, from the dey, to the British consul; the recovery of three hundred and eighty-two thousand dollars, for Naples and Sardinia; and the liberation from slavery of four hundred and seventy-one Neapolitans, two hundred and thirty-six Sicilians, one hundred and seventy-three Romans, six Tuscans, one

hundred and sixty-one Spaniards, one Portuguese seven Greeks, and twenty-eight Dutch.

On his return to England, Lord Exmouth was raised to the dignity of a viscount, and received the thanks of both houses of parliament, as well as a sword from the city of London, and a splendid piece of plate from the officers who had served under him in the expedition. In the autumn of 1817, he was appointed to the chief command at Plymouth; where he continued, with his flag in the Impregnable, of one hundred and four guns, until February, 1821. At the close of the war, he was serving in the Mediterranean; and, on his retiring from command, the flag-officers and captains on that station presented him with a piece of plate worth five hundred guineas. In addition to his other honours, he has obtained a grand cross of the Bath, and a diploma of L.L. D. By his wife, Susan, daughter of James Frowd, Esq., he has several children.

Lord Exmouth is, in every respect, an honour to the British navy. Such a union of lofty heroism, consummate skill, and active benevolence, as he has displayed, is almost without a parallel. "He was a most excellent seaman, even while a captain; and took care never to order a man to do what he himself would not. By way of showing a good example, therefore, he was accustomed, at times, when the main-sail was handed, to assume the post of honour himself,—standing at the weather earing, while Mr. Larcom, his first lieutenant, was stationed at the leeward one."

He is said to be so unskilful an equestrian, that, not daring to cross a horse, he once rode a donkey while reviewing a body of marines. On this occasion, it is added, he was attended by a favourite negro boy, named after his master, Edward, who, having been made acquainted with the vulgar appellation of the animal on which Lord Exmouth was mounted, innocently observed, as he walked by the side of the

gallant admiral and his asinine charger, "Here be three *Neddy*, now, massa!"

JOHN COPLEY, LORD LYNDHURST.

This eminent lawyer was born at Boston, in America, in 1770. His father, whose name is well known as connected with the arts, was one of the American loyalists, who was compelled to fly to England, where young Copley received the most important part of his education. After having passed about six years at a private seminary, he was, in 1789, sent to Trinity College; where, in 1794, he graduated B. A.; and, in the same year, evinced the industry with which he had applied himself to his studies, by becoming second wrangler. He obtained also other university honours of minor distinction, which were succeeded by a fellowship, a situation he was, in due time, compelled to resign, in consequence of his declining to follow the profession of divinity. Whilst at college he became acquainted with several eminent literary and scientific characters, from one of whom, Professor Farish, he imbibed a love of mechanics and practical chymistry; which, it is said, is still such a favourite amusement with him, that he not unfrequently diverts the tedium of a rainy day, or a vacation, by making the model of some house or church, or by repairing such articles (to which his instruments are applicable) as his servants or children may have demolished. Having chosen the law as a profession, he entered himself a student of the Temple, and was called to the bar in the early part of the year 1800. He first practised as a special pleader; but although intending to become a common law advocate, he also devoted a portion of his time to the study of equity and conveyancing, and in all respects prepared himself to fulfil the duties of his calling. At the close of the courts at Westminster, he went the midland cir-

cuit for his assize and sessions practice; where, it is said, he distanced all his immediate competitors, and ultimately stepped into the practice of Mr. (afterwards Serjeant) Rough. Having at length obtained a large portion of business, and expecting but little aid or countenance from the government, he resolved to assume the coif in 1813; upon which occasion, he appropriately took for his motto on the gift-rings—"*Studiis vigilare severis.*"

It was not, however, until 1817, that Serjeant Copley had an opportunity of distinguishing himself in any prominent case. In that year the riots took place which led to the execution of the sailor Cashman, and to the trial of two men, named Hooper and Preston, for treason, who employed, as their counsel, Sir Charles (then Mr.) Wetherell, and the subject of our memoir. The former gave great offence to government by his vehement denunciations; but the address of Mr. Copley was so judiciously managed, as at the same time to do justice to his clients, and to impress their prosecutors with a favourable idea of his own talents. In proof of this, he was shortly afterwards appointed solicitor-general, and received the honour of knighthood; and, in the same year, (1818,) married the widow of Colonel Thomas, a lady of great beauty and accomplishments. His first official employment of importance was as counsel, with Sir Robert Gifford, for the crown, in the conduct of the proceedings against Queen Caroline; after the unsuccessful termination of which he was appointed attorney-general on the removal of Gifford from that post.

In 1826, Sir John Copley was elected member of parliament for the University of Cambridge, and, in a few months afterwards, he succeeded to the office of master of the Rolls. He some time afterwards made his memorable speech in opposition to the catholic claims; and, on the formation of a ministry by Mr. Canning, Sir John Copley succeeded Lord Eldon, as

lord high chancellor of England, with the title of Baron Lyndhurst. He continued to hold the seals on the accession to power of the Duke of Wellington. Government having determined on acceding to the catholic claims, Lord Lyndhurst, notwithstanding he had so recently expressed opposite sentiments, gave the measure his support; and his conduct having made him unpopular with some of the public journals, he was charged with improper distribution of his official patronage. A particular accusation was, that he had accepted from Sir Edward Sugden, the then solicitor-general, a large sum of money for having procured his advancement to that post; but this the chancellor fully repelled, by prosecuting his accusers in the court of King's Bench, where he completely vindicated his character.

Lord Lyndhurst has risen to the most exalted office in the state, less by the force of his abilities than by his power of so accommodating himself under all circumstances to the tide of affairs as to render their flow, in some measure, subservient to his own cautious but sure views. It was always his policy to avoid giving offence to any party, and yet to aid, to the utmost of his power, that to which he could most reasonably look for promotion. At the bar, he was distinguished less for oratory and learning than for tact and urbanity, which, added to a moderate share of natural talent and legal knowledge, have been the qualities to which his rise may be attributed.

As chancellor, he filled the office with dignity, and his judgments, for the most part, gave satisfaction to the suitors. Towards counsel his air is dignified, but by no means cold or imperious; his judgments are delivered in a clear and logical style, which is also the characteristic of his speeches in parliament. In private he bears an amiable character, and possesses the manners of a perfect gentleman. He has a partiality for living well, and even luxuriously, though, while engaged in the duties of his profession, or in

preparing for any business of importance, he is said to be remarkably abstemious. He has been accustomed from his childhood, to the best society; his taste is cultivated, and his manners are distinguished for their true elegance and simplicity. After his resignation of the chancellorship, in 1830, Lord Lyndhurst received the appointment of chief baron of the Exchequer.

FRANCIS JEFFREY.

This celebrated literary and legal character, the eldest son of the late George Jeffrey, Esq., one of the deputy clerks of session, in Scotland, was born in Edinburgh, on the 23d of October, 1773. He received the rudiments of his education at the high school of his native city, where he afterwards engaged actively, it is said, in several literary societies, and was one of the most conspicuous members of that called the Speculative. In 1787, he was entered at the University of Glasgow; and, after having remained there four years, he removed to Oxford, and was admitted of Queen's College, in that university, in 1791. Having resolved on pursuing the legal profession, he went through the necessary studies, and was called to the bar in 1795. His success was long doubtful, and it is not till within these few years that he has acquired a practice co-extensive with his abilities. In acuteness, promptness, and clearness,—in the art of illustrating, stating, and arranging,—in extent of legal knowledge,—in sparkling wit, keen satire, and strong and flowing eloquence, he has few equals in the courts of Scotland.

"Ever quick," says the author of Sketches of the Scottish Bar, "but never boisterous nor pushing, Jeffrey wound his way, like an eel, from one bar to the other. If what he had to do was merely a matter of form, it was despatched in as few words as possible;

generally wound up, when circumstances admitted, with some biting jest. If a cause were to be formally argued, his bundle of papers was unloosed, his glass applied to his eye, and his discourse began, without a moment's pause. He plunged at once into the *mare magnum* of the question, confident that his train of argument would arrange itself in lucid order, almost without any exertion on his part." He possessed a most retentive memory, and could proceed from one subject to another, however different, at a moment's warning. As he sat down, one day, at the close of a long and argumentative speech, an attorney's clerk pulled him by the gown, and whispered in his ear, that a case in which he was retained had just been called on in the inner house. "Good God!" said Jeffrey, "I have heard nothing of the matter for weeks; and that trial has driven it entirely out of my head; what is it?" The lad, in no small trepidation, began to recount some of the leading facts, but no sooner had he mentioned the first, than Jeffrey exclaimed, "I know it!" and ran over, with the most inconceivable rapidity, all the details, and every leading case that bore upon them; and his speech on the occasion, was one of the most powerful he ever delivered. His oratory is not commanding; and it is like the frog striving itself to the size of the ox, when he attempts to be impressive; but once, indeed, says the writer before quoted, we remember an apostrophe, startling, nay, commanding, from its native dignity and moral courage. A baronet who had brought an action, in which, to gain his point, he had shown a disregard of all moral or honourable restraints, Mr. Jeffrey made the following observations on his conduct. "My lords, there is no person who entertains a higher respect for the English aristocracy than I do; or who would feel more loth to say any thing that could hurt the feelings or injure the reputation of any one individual member of that illustrious body; but after all that we have this day heard, I feel my-

self warranted in saying (here he turned round, faced the plaintiff, who was seated immediately behind him, and fixing upon him a cold firm look, proceeded in a low determined voice) that Sir —— has clearly shown himself to be a notorious liar, and a common swindler."

It is, however, as a literary character, that Mr. Jeffrey is more generally known to the public, to whom his name is chiefly familiar as connected with the Edinburgh Review. Of this journal he was not only one of the original projectors, but, after the first year, during which it was conducted by the Rev. Sydney Smith, it came under Mr. Jeffrey's entire control, and has since been understood to be solely managed by him. As a review, the work holds one of the first places among the British periodicals; but though much talent and information are displayed in the general conduct of it, in its pages impartiality is often prevented by prejudice, and sarcasm and ridicule are found in the place of honest criticism and candid investigation. Such a mode of criticism, however, has not been without its good effects; for, to the arrogant and supercilious tone assumed by the Edinburgh Review towards Lord Byron's early poems, is not only attributable his lordship's "English Bards," but, probably, much of the power and energy which the subsequent productions of his irritated genius so suddenly and forcibly displayed.

In person, the subject of our memoir is of low stature, but his figure, which he tries to set off to the best advantage, is elegant and well-proportioned. His features are continually varying in expression, and are said to have baffled our best artists. The face, according to the writer before quoted, is rather elongated, the chin deficient, the mouth well formed, with a mingled expression of determination, sentiment, and arch mockery. The eye is the most peculiar feature of the countenance; it is large and sparkling, but with a want of transparency, that gives it the ap-

pearance of a heartless enigma. He has two tones in his voice; the one harsh and grating, the other rich and clear, though not powerful. His pronunciation is minced, the natural defect of youthful affectation.

Mr. Jeffrey has contributed several articles to the Review, many of which are political, and show the sentiments of their author to be those of a stanch Whig. His duel with Mr. Moore, the poet, and the lines to which it gave rise in Lord Byron's English Bards and Scotch Reviewers, are too well known to the public to require more than a mere mention of the fact. Mr. Jeffrey has been twice married: first, in 1801, to a Miss Wilson, who bore him no children; secondly, in 1814, to a daughter of Mr. Wilkes, of New York, grand-niece of the famous John Wilkes, and by whom he has issue.

SIR JONAH BARRINGTON.

This learned gentleman, whose great-grandfather, a colonel in the service of King James, was hanged on his own gate, but saved by one of the king's troopers; and another of whose relations, during the subsequent disturbances in Ireland, was effectually hanged before the walls of his own castle, was born at his father's seat in Queen's county, Ireland, some time in the year 1767. He remained until 1776, under the roof and tuition of his grand-father, but was removed about that time to a school at Dublin, where, he says, "I was taught prosody without verse, and rhetoric without composition; and, to prevent me from being idle during the week, received castigation regularly every Monday morning." He afterwards went to the Dublin University, on leaving which, he joined a volunteer corps, and became, (he observes,) before he well knew what he was about, a military martinet, and a red-hot patriot. His martial enthusiasm, however, having abated, he declined a lieutenant's commission

in the army; and shortly after, studied for the bar, to which he was called in 1788.

About 1790, he was returned for the city of Tuam, to the Irish parliament, where he says, "I directed my earliest effort against Curran and Grattan; and, on the first day of my rising, exhibited a specimen of what I may now call true arrogance." In 1793, he had so well served government, in the house of commons, that he was presented with a sinecure office attached to the port of Dublin; and shortly afterwards, received a silk gown. In 1799, he had an interview with the then Irish secretary, Lord Castlereagh, who promised him the solicitor-generalship, but in consequence of his subsequent declaration, that he would never support the Union, the appointment was refused him.

His independent conduct on this occasion, made him very popular, and, in 1803, he stood candidate for Dublin; when, he says, "After three months' canvass, in which I drank nearly as much porter and whisky, with the electors themselves, and as much tea and cherry brandy with their wives and daughters, as would inevitably have killed me on any other occasion, and a fifteen days' poll, I lost my election." About a year or two afterwards, he was made judge of the high court of admiralty in Ireland; and, in 1807, received the honour of knighthood. Between 1809 and 1815, he published five parts of his Historic Anecdotes and Secret Memoirs of the Legislative Union between Great Britain and Ireland; and, in the latter year, visited Paris, where he remained during the hundred days' reign of Napoleon.

In 1827, he published, in two volumes, his Personal Sketches of his own Times; a very amusing and popular work, and of which a third volume has lately appeared. In 1830, a charge of malversation was made against him; and a committee of the house of commons having reported the accusation to be well founded, an address was presented by both houses of

parliament, praying for his discharge from his office of judge of the high court of Admiralty, from which he was accordingly removed. He made an attempt to disprove the charges, by appearing in person before the house of lords, but the proofs against him were too clear to be shaken.

In private life, Sir Jonah was much courted and respected, and few have the reputation of being a more witty and entertaining companion. It is to be regretted that he should have so sullied the end of his public career, which, in other respects, appears to have been highly honourable to himself, and serviceable to his country. In 1795, Lord Westmoreland thus expressed himself in a letter to Sir Jonah, "I have not failed to apprize Lord Camden of your talents and spirit, which were so useful to my government on many occasions;" and his present majesty, when Duke of Clarence, evinced such a warm regard for him and his family, that he educated his only son, and sent him into the army.

From his memoirs, which are extremely entertaining and characteristic, he appears to have been in the confidence of both insurgents and loyalists, during the time of the Irish rebellion; and dining, one day, at the house of a friend, where he met his relative, Captain Keogh, the counsellor Shears, and others, he said to the former, "My dear Keogh, it is quite clear that you and I, in this famous rebellion, shall be on different sides of the question; and, of course, on or other of us must necessarily be hanged at or before its termination; I upon a lamp-iron in Dublin, or you on the bridge of Wexford: now we'll make a bargain;—if we beat you, upon my honour, I'll do all I can to save your neck; and if your folks beat us, you'll save me from the honour of the lamp-iron. We shook hands," continues Sir Jonah, "on the bargain, which created much merriment; and I returned to Wexford, with a most decided impression of the danger of the country, and a complete presentiment that

either myself or Captain Keogh would never see the conclusion of that summer." His anticipations were realized; for, on his next visit to Wexford, he says, "I saw the heads of Captain Keogh, Mr. Harvey, and Mr. Colclough, on spikes over the court-house door;" their execution having been so speedy, that Sir Jonah had no time to make any exertions to save his friend, according to his promise.

Sir Jonah could occasionally make a joke with the same felicity that he could relate a story; the following is a specimen of the former:—Surveying, one day, the ruins of an old cathedral, in company with some friends, on one of the party begging to be told what the *nave* of the church was, "Oh!" he is said to have replied, "that's the incumbent!" which answer reaching the ears of a clergyman, he facetiously observed, "that Sir Jonah had given a *key* (k) to the question!"

SIR JAMES MACKINTOSH.

This distinguished character, descended from an old Scottish clan, who followed the Pretender's fortunes, and the son of John Mackintosh, Esq., an officer in the army, was born in Morayshire, North Britain, on the 24th of October, 1765. He received the rudiments of his education at a school at Fortrose, in Ross-shire; and removed from thence to King's College, Aberdeen, where he distinguished himself by his proficiency in Greek and mathematics, and went through his various studies with a zeal and ability that gave promise of his future eminence. From Aberdeen, by the assistance of his aunt, he proceeded to the University of Edinburgh, with a view of preparing himself for the medical profession; and he accordingly became a pupil of the celebrated Cullen, under whom he studied about three years. During this period, it is said, he was in some danger of falling

into a life of gayety; but having imbibed an enthusiastic admiration for the writings of Robertson, Adam Smith, and others, then in the zenith of their fame, he devoted himself to the ardent study of their works, and made literature his engrossing pursuit. He, however, took his medical degree in 1787, although, from his earnest attention to moral and political philosophy, and, indeed, to almost every subject but that connected with medicine, it is probable that, even at this time, he contemplated abandoning his original profession. It is, however, stated, by the editor of the Law Magazine, that Sir James was dissuaded from practising medicine by Dr. Fraser; who, as Parr told the editor above-named, "dreaded having such a rival."

In 1788, Mr. Mackintosh came to London, and published a pamphlet in defence of the constitutional right of the Prince of Wales to exercise, without restriction, the functions of the regency. Owing to the excitation which prevailed on the subject at the time, it gained great temporary attention; and, but for the king's sudden recovery, it is said, would have procured for its author very valuable patronage. However, as Mr. Campbell observes, in his biographical sketch of the subject of our memoir, "the theory of Pitt on this subject triumphed over that of Fox; and the first political essay of our literary hero, shared the fate of the cause which he defended."

A short time afterwards Mr. Mackintosh proceeded to the continent; having, according to the authority last-mentioned, previously entered himself a student of one of the inns of court. Another of his biographers asserts, that he went abroad with the intention of renewing his medical studies; and he appears to have passed some time at Leyden; where he made the acquaintance of the principal literati of that university. He subsequently visited Liege, where he was an eye-witness of the memorable contest between the prince bishop of that principality and his subjects;

and, his attention being immediately afterwards transferred to the assembly of the states-general of France, which at that time commanded the attention of the whole world, he returned to England enthusiastically full of the sentiments with which the proceedings of that country had inspired him. These he conveyed to the world shortly after his arrival in London, where he published, about 1791, his Vindiciæ Gallicæ, in answer to Mr. Burke's work on the French Revolution. The Vindiciæ at once fixed the fame of its author; and, besides extracting the applause of Burke himself, gained for the writer the friendship of Mr. Fox, and of some of the most eminent Whigs.

The effect produced by the work on the public, is thus described by Mr. Campbell. "Those who remember," he says, "the impression that was made by Burke's writings on the then living generation, will recollect, that in the better educated classes of society, there was a general proneness to go with Burke; and it is my sincere opinion that that proneness would have become universal, if such a mind as Mackintosh's had not presented itself, like a breakwater to the general spring tide of Burkism. I may be reminded that there was such a man as Thomas Paine; and that he strongly answered, at the bar of popular opinion, all the arguments of Burke. I deny not this fact—and I should be sorry if I could be blind, even with tears for Mackintosh in my eyes, to the services that have been rendered to the cause of truth, by the shrewdness and the courage of Thomas Paine. But without disparagement to Paine, in a great and essential view, it must be admitted, that though radically sound in sense, he was deficient in the strategetics of philosophy—whilst Mackintosh met Burke, perfectly his equal in the tactics of moral science, and in beauty of style and illustration. Hence Mackintosh went, as the apostle of liberalism, among a class, perhaps too influential in society, to whom the manner of Paine was repulsive. Paine had something

of a coarse hatred towards Burke's principles, but he had a chivalric genius. He could foil him, moreover, at his own weapons; he was logician enough to detect the sophist by the rules of logic; and he turned against Burke, not only popular opinion, but classical and tasteful feelings."

Mr. Mackintosh, having completed the necessary preparatory studies, was, in due time, called to the bar, but had scarcely commenced practice when he was left a widower with three daughters; having married, in 1789, a Miss Stewart, of Edinburgh. He, however, devoted himself with singular ardour to the study of the law of nations; and having arranged a course of lectures on the subject, obtained, through the influence of the benchers, the use of Lincoln's Inn Hall for their delivery. Many obstacles were at first thrown in the way of his request, which was opposed by several, on the assumption that his object was to disseminate the dangerous principles of the French revolution. The publication, however, of his intended introductory lecture, in 1799, entitled, A Discourse on the Law of Nature and Nations, dispelled all apprehension, and removed the previous objection. So far, indeed, were his lectures from inculcating the principles anticipated, that, it is said, they gave less offence to government than to some violent members of the opposition; who, because his original ardour for the French revolution had abated, in consequence of the cruelties by which that event was followed, charged him with apostacy and insincerity. His discourses were, however, attended by a large number of the wisest men of the age, and amongst those who expressed their admiration of them, were Fox and Pitt; the latter of whom said to him—"I have no motive for wishing to please you, but I must be permitted to say, that I have never met with any thing so able or so elegant on the subject in any language."

In 1800, Mr. Mackintosh volunteered his services

as counsel for M. Peltier, who had been proceeded against for a libel on the first consul of France, Napoleon Bonaparte. On this occasion, the counsel opposed to him were the late Mr. Perceval, the attorney-general, and Mr. Abbott, the present Lord Tenterden; against whom he advocated the cause of his client with such skill and eloquence, that he was, from that time, looked upon as an orator of the highest rank. His fee, upon this occasion, was only five guineas; but, although his speech was pronounced, by Lord Ellenborough, to have been "the most eloquent oration he had ever heard in Westminster Hall," it was thought by many to be injudicious as a defence; and Peltier himself said, that the fellow, as he called Mackintosh, had sacrificed him to show off in praise of Napoleon. The conclusion of his speech is worth transcribing, not only as a specimen of his powers at the time of its delivery, but for the spirit and independence by which it is pervaded. "In the court where we are now met," said Mr. Mackintosh, "Cromwell twice sent a satirist on his tyranny to be convicted and punished as a libeller; and in this court, almost in sight of the scaffold streaming with the blood of his sovereign, within hearing of the clash of his bayonets which drove out parliaments with contumely, two successive juries rescued the intrepid satirest from his fangs, and sent out, with defeat and disgrace, the usurper's attorney-general from what he had the insolence to call *his* court. Even then, gentlemen, when all law and liberty were trampled under the feet of a military banditti—when those great crimes were perpetrated on a high plan, and with a high hand against those who were the objects of public veneration, which more than any thing else upon earth, overwhelm the minds of men, break their spirits, and confound the moral sentiments, obliterate the distinctions between right and wrong in the understanding, and teach the multitude to feel no longer any reverence for that justice which they thus see

triumphantly dragged at the chariot wheels of a tyrant —even then, when this unhappy country, triumphant indeed abroad, but enslaved at home, had no prospect but that of a long succession of tyrants, wading through slaughter to a throne—even then, I say, when all seemed lost, the unconquerable spirit of English liberty survived in the hearts of English jurors. That spirit is, I trust in God, not extinct; and if any modern tyrant were, in the drunkenness of his insolence, to hope to awe an English jury, I trust and believe that they would tell him, 'Our ancestors braved the bayonets of Cromwell; we bid defiance to yours.' *Contempsi Catilinæ gladios, non pertimescam tuos.*"

The manner in which he had distinguished himself, nevertheless, recommended him to the notice of government, and he soon after received the honour of knighthood, and was appointed recorder of Bombay. In this character he had frequent opportunities for the display of his abilities, and performed his functions to the satisfaction both of the Europeans and the natives; and such was his independence on the seat of judgment, that he once declared the court was bound to decide by the law of nations, and not by any direction from the king or his ministers. His first charge to the Bombay grand jury, was delivered on the 17th of July, 1804, when he said that it had been one of his chief employments to collect every information about the character and morality of the people that were to be intrusted to his care, and about the degree and kinds of vice that were prevalent in their community. He compared himself in this preliminary occupation, to a physician appointed to an hospital, who would first examine the books of the establishment in order to make himself acquainted with the complaints that most frequently call for cure.

Sir James found the principal sin of the Indians to be perjury; which, considering it as indicative of the absence of all the common restraints that withhold men from crimes, he punished severely, and took the

most strenuous measures to counteract. For this crime he sentenced a woman to five years' imprisonment; during which period she had to stand once a year in the pillory, in front of the court-house, with labels on her breast and back, explanatory of the offence of which she had been guilty, and of the resolution of the court to adopt the most vigorous means for the extirpation of this crime. He was, however, no advocate for severe treatment towards criminals; and fully acted up to his saying, that he had more confidence in the certainty than in the severity of punishment. One of his most eloquent addresses was on the trial of two Dutchmen for having designed the commission of murder, who, being convicted, and expecting to be called up to receive sentence of death, had got knives, with the resolution of sacrificing their sentencer. The discovery of their plan made no alteration in the conduct of Sir James, who ordered them to be imprisoned for twelve months, after having thus addressed them: "I was employed, prisoners, in considering the mildest judgment which public duty would allow me to pronounce on you, when I learned, from undoubted authority, that your thoughts towards me were not of the same nature. I was credibly or, rather, certainly informed, that you had admitted into your minds the desperate project of destroying your own lives at the bar where you stand, and of signalizing your suicide by the previous destruction of at least one of the judges. If that murderous project had been executed, I should have been the first British magistrate who ever stained with his blood the bench on which he sat to administer justice: but I could never have died better than in the discharge of my duty. When I accepted the office of a minister of justice, I knew that I ought to despise unpopularity and slander, and even death itself. Thank God, I do despise them; and I solemnly assure you, that I feel more compassion for the gloomy and desperate state of mind which could

harbour such projects, than resentment for that part of them which was directed against myself. I should consider myself as indelibly disgraced, if a thought of your projects against me were to influence my judgment."

Previously to leaving Bombay, Sir James founded a literary society; and his communications to the Asiatic Register, during his stay there, abound with valuable information, his computations, it is said, being probably made with greater accuracy than those of any other writer; and to his researches, it is added, the learned Dr. Buchanan was materially indebted in the compilation of his voluminous works on India.

After seven years' residence in India, Sir James was obliged, by ill health, to visit England; where he might have had high employment, it is said, had not his principles prevented a union with Mr. Perceval. In July, 1813, he was returned to parliament for the county of Nairn, in Scotland; but his commencement, as a speaker in the commons, was by no means promising. His maiden oration was made in defence of the petty republics and states in the Adriatic and Mediterranean; and, during the whole of the session, he conducted himself with a littleness of view and obstinacy of spirit, which was neither approved of by his friends, nor anticipated by his foes. He, however, completely redeemed his reputation in the following session, by delivering one of the most eloquent speeches ever heard in parliament, on the subject of the escape of Bonaparte from Elba. But his greatest parliamentary efforts were directed to the amendment of the criminal code; which he is said to have taken up as a solemn bequest from the originator of that humane measure, Sir Samuel Romilly. His first motion on the subject related to the capital punishment of felony, and was introduced to the notice of parliament, it is stated, by a speech of the very first character, both in style and argument. It was supported by Messrs. Wilberforce, Buxton, &c.: and

such was the effect it produced, that he had the satisfaction of triumphing over ministerial influence and opposition, by a majority of nineteen, for the appointment of a committee.

In 1822, he had the honour of being elected lord rector of the University of Glasgow, in preference to Sir Walter Scott; and to which high office he was re-elected in 1823. In March, 1822, he supported Lord Normanby's motion for the reduction of one of the post-masters-general. In June of the same year, he made a brilliant speech on the subject of the alien bill. On the 17th of June, 1823, he was elected a vice-president of the Royal Society of Literature; and, in July, 1826, became one of the council for conducting the affairs of the London University. In the same year, he became member of parliament for Knaresborough, which he continued to represent in succeeding parliaments; in all of which, he advocated the most liberal principles, and made the abolition of the slave trade the subject of an annual motion. In April, 1830, he supported a proposition in the house of commons for the emancipation of the Jews; and in June of the same year, opposed the clause of Mr. Peel's bill, which subjected a person guilty of the forgery of Exchequer bills and promissory notes to capital punishment. Some years after his return from India, Sir James undertook an extensive historical work on the affairs of England subsequent to the revolution; but the progress of it was much retarded by his parliamentary duties, and also by the declining state of his health. In 1830, he published in Lardner's Cyclopedia, one volume of a History of England, which Mr. Campbell considers an expansion of the prefatory matter intended for the greater work, and eulogizes the author by saying that he has wonderfully solved the difficulty of making history at once amusing to the fancy, elevating to the understanding, and interesting to the heart.

Sir James Mackintosh has sustained, with distin-

guished honour and reputation, his three successive characters of advocate, judge, and statesman. In the first, we have already mentioned the abilities he displayed and the fame he acquired by his speech in defence of Peltier, but, with this exception, he did little worthy of notice at the bar; in proof of which, the following anecdote is related of him. When he was once addressing a jury, Henry Blackstone, the brother of the judge, was engaged in taking notes of the speech for the senior counsel, who was to reply, till at length, wearied out by the irrelevancy of the oration, he wrote down—"Here Mr. Mackintosh talked so much nonsense, that it was quite useless, and indeed, impossible, to follow him."

In his judicial capacity, he was eminent for his extensive knowledge of the law, and the impartiality with which he formed his judgment, unbiassed by political or party considerations. In the senate, he preserved the same independence of conduct; and his learning and talent served to heighten the effect of his integrity. As a parliamentary orator, his arguments, however vehement, were tempered by gravity and dignity; whilst, at the same time, his eloquence lost none of that warmth which is so congenial with the truth and diffusion of generous sentiments. In his domestic circle he was much beloved and respected; and, in Christian society, he shone as the advocate of whatever was sacred and hallowed.

"Stubborn virtue," says Forbes, in his Oriental Memoirs, "is the characteristic of this eminent lawyer, senator, and knight. He is neither to be diverted by smiles, nor deterred by frowns, from the course which an enlightened judgment concludes to be right. His virtue has been tried by ordeals of the greatest power, and has always come forth from the trial unalloyed. As an author," continues the same writer, "Sir James Mackintosh is much less known than the public, some twenty or thirty years ago, had reason to expect he would be. Yet he stands high; though

the works which have gained him the reputation of a man of letters are few. His Vindiciæ Gallicæ has been the object of almost general approval; and Dr. Parr, in comparing the work with the writings of Burke and Paine, on the same subject, gives to Sir James the preference. "My friend," says Dr. Parr, "for I have the honour to hail him by that splendid name, will excuse me for expressing in general terms, what I think of his work. In Mackintosh, then, I see the sternness of a republican, without his acrimony; and the ardour of a reformer, without his impetuosity. His taste in morals, like that of Mr. Burke, is equally pure and delicate with his taste in literature. His mind is so comprehensive, that generalities cease to be barren; and so vigorous, that detail itself becomes interesting. He introduces every question with perspicuity, states it with precision, and pursues it with easy, unaffected method. His philosophy is far more just, and far more amiable than the philosophy of Paine; and his eloquence is only not equal to the eloquence of Burke. He is argumentative without sophistry, fervid without fury, profound without obscurity, and sublime without extravagance."

A passage from the work which forms the subject of the foregoing panegyric, deserves quotation; and we select the following, as containing what Mr. Campbell calls the character of that arch hypocrite of France, Louis the Fourteenth, as a fair specimen of the author's style and power of writing:—"The intrusion of any popular voice was not likely to be tolerated in the reign of Louis the Fourteenth; a reign which has been so often celebrated as the zenith of warlike and literary splendour, but which has always appeared to me to be the consummation of whatever is afflicting and degrading in the history of the human race. Talents seemed, in that reign, to be robbed of the conscious elevation of the erect and manly part, which is its noblest associate and its surest indication. The mild purity of Fenelon, the lofty spirit of Bos-

suet, the masculine mind of Boileau, the sublime fervour of Corneille, were confounded by the contagion of ignominious and indiscriminate servitude. It seemed as if the representative majesty of the genius and intellect of man were prostrated before the shrine of a sanguinary and dissolute tyrant, who practised the corruption of courts without their mildness, and incurred the guilt of wars without their glory. His highest praise is to have supported the stage part of royalty with effect. And it is surely difficult to conceive any character more odious and despicable than that of a puny libertine, who, under the frown of a strumpet or a monk, issues the mandate that is to murder virtuous citizens,—to desolate happy and peaceful hamlets,—to wring agonizing tears from widows and orphans. Heroism has a splendour that almost atones for its excesses; but what shall we think of him, who, from the luxurious and dastardly security in which he wallows at Versailles, issues, with calm and cruel apathy, his orders to butcher the protestants of Languedoc, or to lay in ashes the villages of the Palatinate? On the recollection of such scenes, as a scholar, I blush for the prostitution of letters; and, as a man, I blush for the patience of humanity."

Few men have been more generally esteemed than Sir James, and he retained the respect of all who knew him, excepting that of Dr. Parr, who, being a staunch Foxite, became highly indignant at the subject of our memoir for accepting, through the influence of Mr. Pitt, the recordership of Bombay. Parr took an opportunity of showing his virulence, a short time afterwards, at a party, where the conversation turning upon the conduct of one Quigley, who had lately been executed, the doctor exclaimed repeatedly and emphatically, "he might have been worse!" Upon Sir James asking him to explain how, he replied, "I'll tell you, Jemmy: Quigley *was* an Irishman,—he *might have been* a Scotchman; he *was* a priest,—he

might have been a lawyer; he *was* a traitor,—he *might have been* an apostate."

In addition to the works already mentioned, Sir James has also written several articles in the Edinburgh Review, and other periodical journals of importance.

"Sir James," says Mr. Campbell, "was, in his person, well made, and above the middle stature. He was regularly handsome in youth, and even in the decline of life, and under afflicted health, was a person of prepossessing and commanding appearance. His countenance had a changeful mixture of grave and gay expression, a shrewdness combined with suavity, that heightened and accorded with the charm of his conversation. No man was a greater master of conversation; he overlaid you with monologue, but overpaid whatever you said to him with insinuating correction; or else, if he approved of your remarks, he amended them by rich and happy illustration. A certain thinness and sharpness of voice was the chief defect of his elocution; and sometimes there was, perhaps, an over-northern keenness and sharpness in his metaphysics; but still the world will produce no such mental lights again."

He formed a second marriage in 1798, when he was allied to Miss Allen, a lady of family in Wales, by whom he has had several children.

THOMAS, LORD ERSKINE.

Thomas Erskine, third son of the Earl of Buchan, was born in 1750, and received his education at the college of St. Andrew's, in Scotland. In the early part of his life, he served both in the navy and army, and was stationed for three years at Minorca, as ensign in the first regiment of foot. In consequence of his marriage and increasing family, he, on his return to England, left the army, and, by the advice of his

mother, who jestingly said, he must be lord-chancellor, prepared himself for the bar, to which he was called in 1778. Previously to this step, he had entered himself a fellow-commoner of Trinity College, Cambridge, where he was remarkable both for his talent and wit; the best specimen of which is his well-known parody of Gray, written on his having been detained from dinner at the college hall, by the tardiness of his hair-dresser; the first stanza of which runs thus:—

Ruin seize thee, scoundrel Coe!
Confusion on thy frizzing wait!
Had'st thou the only comb below,
Thou never more should'st touch my pate.
Club, nor cue, nor twisted tail,
Nor e'en thy chattering, barber, shall avail
To save thy horse-whipped back from daily fears
From Cantab's curse, from Cantab's tears.

In 1778, Mr. Erskine took the honorary degree of M. A. and was called to the bar in Trinity term of the same year, having previously studied under a pleader of eminence. His practice was at first small; and he is said, on having been complimented on his health and spirits about this period, to have remarked, that "he ought to look well, as he had nothing else to do but to grow, as was said of his trees, by Lord Abercorn." He cultivated popular speaking at a debating society, and his first opportunity for forensic display, was in the defence of Captain Baillie, who had accidentally heard of his abilities. Such was the effect of his speech on this occasion, that nearly thirty briefs were put into his hand before he quitted the court. In the course of his address, he named Lord Sandwich, who, though not openly standing in the character of prosecutor, was supposed to be chiefly instrumental to the proceedings against Captain Baillie; Mr. Erskine was proceeding to say, "Lord Sandwich has acted, in my mind, such a part—" when he was interrupted by Lord Mansfield, who observed, "that his lordship was not before the court;"—"I

know that he is not," was the spirited reply of the advocate; "but for that very reason I will bring him before the court."

He was employed, in 1779, as one of the counsel for Admiral Keppel; and, in the spring of the same year, established his fame, by appearing at the bar of the house of commons, for a bookseller, named Carnan, when he successfully opposed a bill intended to renew the monopoly of printing almanacks. Such was the effect of his argument and eloquence, that though Lord North, who had introduced the bill, had requested his brother-in-law, Lord Elliott, to come from Cornwall, expressly to support the measure, that nobleman voted against it, declaring openly, in the lobby, that after Mr. Erskine's speech, he could not conscientiously act otherwise.

In February, 1781, he appeared as counsel for Lord George Gordon, who was acquitted; and, in 1783, so high was his reputation, that though he had been only five years at the bar, it was thought advisable to confer upon him a patent of precedence. In the same year, he was brought into parliament as member for Portsmouth, and spoke in favour of the India bill, introduced by the Whig ministry, though his speech on the occasion greatly disappointed the expectation of his friends, and gave to his enemies a handle for detraction.

In 1784, he defended, with his customary talent, the Dean of St. Asaph, who had been indicted for publishing the Dialogue between a Gentleman and a Farmer, written by Sir William Jones; and, in the course of the trial, boldly avowed his concurrence with the defendant's principles. Having some misunderstanding with Judge Buller, as to the wording of the verdict, he was told to sit down; when he declared that he knew his duty as well as his lordship knew his, and that he would not alter his conduct

He was, soon after, appointed attorney-general to the Prince of Wales; and in 1789, defended Mr.

Rochdale, with success, for a libel reflecting on the house of commons.

In the session of 1790, he spoke in parliament on the abatement of impeachments by a dissolution, and was so exhausted in the course of his speech, that he was unable to continue his argument. In 1792, he opposed the introduction of the traitorous correspondence bill, and supported a motion made by Mr. (afterwards Lord) Grey, for a reform of parliament. In the same year, he acted as counsel for Thomas Paine, the author of the Rights of Man, and was, in consequence, deprived of his office of attorney-general to the Prince of Wales. In 1793, he appeared as the advocate of a Mr. Frost, an attorney, charged with uttering seditious language in a public coffee-room; and, in the following year, defended, at Lancaster, a gentleman named Walker, who was indicted for a conspiracy to overthrow the government. In the ensuing October, he distinguished himself by his brilliant defence of Hardy, and others, for a conspiracy; by whose acquittal he saved the country from a horrible extension of the law of constructive treason. The interest excited by the trial had never been equalled, and so dense was the mob outside the court, that the judges could scarcely proceed to or from their carriages. He was equally successful in favour of Horne Tooke, who was arraigned immediately after the other prisoners had been pronounced not guilty. He continued to advocate, in the house of commons, those principles capable of preserving and promoting public liberty; and, in April, 1800, on the trial of Hadfield, for shooting at the king, he, in an admirable speech, replete with argument, completely established the derangement of the prisoner.

In 1802, he visited Paris, and was presented to Napoleon; who, however, passed him with the simple question, *Etes vous légiste?* In the same year, he became attorney-general to the Prince of Wales, who revived in his person also the dormant office of

chancellor and keeper of the seals of the Duchy of Cornwall. In 1803, he acted as commander of the Law Volunteers; but resigned the post in 1806, on his appointment to the office of lord high chancellor. He resigned in 1807, and appeared but little in public life subsequently to that period.

During his latter years he imprudently formed a second marriage with a person in a very humble capacity, and his private anxieties were considerably increased by pecuniary embarrassment. The Prince Regent bestowed upon him, in 1815, the order of the Thistle; and, he died of an inflammation of the chest, on the 17th of November, 1823, at Almondale, about six miles from Edinburgh. He had three sons and five daughters by his first wife, and had other children by his second.

The eloquence of Lord Erskine was not characterized merely by the elegance of its diction and the graces of its style, but was peculiarly remarkable for its strength and earnestness. The excellence of his speeches did not consist merely in the beauty of separate passages, but even in the longest of his oratorical displays there was no weakness or flagging. Being without that deep legal knowledge so necessary to an advocate, he, with admirable tact, supplied its place, by an undeviating adherence to one great principle of justice, by which he gave an air of sincerity to his arguments. His eloquence was addressed more to the feelings than to the taste of his audience; his ornaments, it has been said, were rather those of sentiment than of diction. Notwithstanding the strength of his own powers, both mental and physical, he frequently took laudanum to assist them; and was much encouraged in his address, if he observed that a fellow advocate concurred with his arguments. He generally used, whilst speaking, to turn to Garrow, for a look of applause; and, on one occasion, not finding it, whispered to him, "who do you think can get on, with that d—d wet blanket of a face of yours before

him?" He was also equally averse to a disagreeable, as a disagreeing countenance; and, on one occasion, seeing a barrister whose mouth was in continual contortion, he whispered to one of his colleagues, that he could not proceed if the fellow was not removed. He seldom displayed much humour; a deficiency that may have arisen from the generally serious character of the subjects he had to treat of. His speeches exhibit frequent evidence of deep philosophical reflection; displaying, it has been remarked, a profound acquaintance with nature and the springs of human action. However completely his mind might appear absorbed in the subject of his address, he had the singular faculty of being alive to the emotions expressed in the faces of the jury, which he always made the guide of his oratory. Such was his independence, that he would never allow himself to be deterred by the judge from the rigid performance of his duty; and the same spirit of honesty led him sometimes, as in the case of Paine, to sacrifice the highest political advantages. He never degraded his character by base servility to the government; but reached the highest point of legal preferment by a road in which his integrity did not incur the slightest blemish. As chancellor, he was so short a time in office, that it is impossible to speak fairly of his qualifications for that exalted station; though it is certain, he would have administ d the laws with at least unsullied impartiality often regretted his appointment to the c' rship; his acceptation of which, prevente om again pleading at the bar, and laid the fou on of his subsequent difficulties. Indeed, he used to say to his friends, that his only reason for having accepted the chancellorship was to verify the prediction of his mother, as he might have been lord-keeper instead; an office which would not have prevented him from resuming his situation of advocate. In parliament he disappointed the admirers of his splendid talents, but increased the respect

of those who venerated the enlarged liberality and consistency of his principles. In court, his demeanour towards the bench was respectful without being subservient; and, to his professional brethren, he was remarkably courteous. He is said to have possessed some vanity; and even had a few weaknesses, which appear to be much at variance with the general greatness of his character. He used to keep the audience, in a crowded court, waiting for a few minutes after a cause had been called on, before he made his appearance; and when he entered, was invariably distinguished by a pair of new yellow gloves, and a wig dressed with more care than those of his brother barristers. He and Dr. Parr, who were both remarkably conceited, were in the habit of conversing together, and complimenting each other on their respective abilities. On one of these occasions, Parr promised that he would write Erskine's epitaph; to which the other replied, that "such an intention on the doctor's part was almost a temptation to commit suicide."

Lord Erskine had received a religious education, and was deeply impressed with the excellence of the Christian doctrine. He was aware that he had some moral failings of his own; but they did not arise from any disregard to the duties of religion. His errors were, however, not of a flagrant kind; and, compared with his many virtues, were said to be "spots in the sun," by Lord Kenyon, who was a sincere admirer of his character.

Lord Erskine had many personal advantages. His features were animated and regular, and his action extremely graceful. His constitution was remarkably strong; and, for twenty-seven years that he had been in practice, he was never prevented from attending court one day by bodily indisposition.

GEORGE CANNING.

The father of this distinguished orator was an unfortunate man of letters, who having offended his opulent family by marrying a dowerless beauty, was thrown upon the world with an allowance of only 150*l.* a year, which being inadequate to his support, he left his native country (Ireland) for the purpose of qualifying himself as a barrister in the courts at Westminster. He had previously distinguished himself by the production of several prose pieces and poetical effusions; and, in consequence of his reputation as an author, associated, on his arrival in London, with Whitehead, Churchill, Colman, the elder, and other literary men. He also became a zealous partisan of the celebrated Wilkes; but these connexions rather tended to his injury than his benefit as a professional man. Making no progress at the bar, he at length abandoned the law in despair, and became a wine merchant. A fatality however seemed to attend him; he failed in business and succeeded in nothing that he subsequently attempted. In a few years, repeated disappointments destroyed his constitution; and he died heart-broken at an early age, on the first anniversary of his son's birth. His beautiful widow, who was a relative of Sheridan, went on the stage in order to support herself and her child: she made her first appearance at Drury Lane theatre, in the character of Jane Shore to Garrick's Lord Hastings; but her talents as an actress not being sufficiently brilliant for the metropolitan boards, she was compelled to accept of a provincial engagement; and after performing for some years at various country theatres, she, at length, married a member of the profession which necessity had driven her to adopt.

Her son, the celebrated George Canning, was born in the parish of Mary-le-bone, on the 11th of April, 1770. His paternal uncle who was a merchant of some emi-

nence, undertook the care of his education, and, at a proper age, sent him to Eton, where the talents of young Canning developed themselves so rapidly, that he became a senior scholar when only in his fifteenth year. Shortly afterwards he edited a periodical, called the Microcosm; the contributors to which were John and Robert Smith, Freer, Lord H. Spencer, and two or three more of his school-fellows. The 2d, 11th, 12th, 22d, and six or eight other numbers of this publication, have been attributed to the youthful editor's pen.

Canning left Eton in 1787, and entered at Christchurch, Oxford, where he soon distinguished himself for application and talents. He gained several prizes by his Latin essays; and his orations were so admirable as to produce a general impression that he would attain to great eminence in whatever profession he might be advised to adopt. He quitted college too early to obtain a degree, and immediately after became a student at Lincoln's-inn. In London he fully supported the high reputation for natural abilities and great acquirements which he had obtained at Oxford. His wit, erudition, and pleasing deportment, soon rendered him conspicuous: his society was very generally courted, and he was looked upon by those who knew him, as a remarkably promising young man. His relation, Sheridan, introduced him to Fox, Grey, and Burke; by the latter of whom it is said, he was induced to abandon his profession for the study of politics. In order to obtain tact and confidence as a public speaker, he frequented debating clubs, which at that time, were much more respectable than, generally speaking, they became subsequently to the period of the French revolution; and, at length, he displayed talents so powerful and varied, as to attract the admiration of Lord Lansdowne, who predicted to Bentham, that he would one day become prime minister of England.

From Canning's whiggish connexions, it was gene

rally supposed that the line he was to take, as Moore observes, in the house of commons, seemed already, according to the usual course of events, marked out for him. The opposition was so confident of his support, that Sheridan spoke of him in parliament as the future advocate of free and liberal opinions. Canning, however was either in fear of being eclipsed by his talented leaders, if he enrolled himself in the ranks of opposition, or entertained an opinion that he had more chance of obtaining the preferment he sought as a partisan, rather than an opponent, of the ministry. Accordingly, in 1793, he entered parliament as member of Newport, in the Isle of Wight, under the auspices of Pitt, to whom he had probably been introduced by his college friend Mr. Jenkinson, afterwards the first Lord Liverpool.

At the latter end of January, 1794, he delivered his maiden speech, in which he displayed considerable talent; but, at the same time, indulged in so much contemptible levity towards Fox, that, however highly he might have gratified his patron, he must have disgusted the moderate men of all parties. His subsequent conduct, for some time in parliament, was rather daring than brilliant · he bearded the political giants on the opposition benches with an effrontery that, while it tended to increase his value as a ministerial skirmisher, lowered him materially in general estimation. Without a solitary exception, he supported and eulogized the measures brought forward by the premier, and as invariably opposed and ridiculed the propositions of his political antagonists; acting, on all occasions, less as a partisan than a retained advocate of the ministry. He was so evidently the political creature of Pitt, that he frequently incurred such sarcastic reproaches, as equalled, if they did not exceed, in severity, the invectives which he frequently lavished on the opposition. Francis, on one occasion, thus corrected him for his flippancy :—"The young gentleman, who is just escaped from his school and his

classics, and is neither conversant in the constitution or the laws of his country, imprudently ventures to deliver opinions, the effect of which is merely to degrade him in the opinion of the world." On another occasion, Courteney said of him "We have seen the honourable gentleman attach himself to the minister, apparently for the purpose of promoting his own for tunes:

> 'Thus, a light straw, whirl'd round by ev'ry blast,
> Is carried off by some dog's tail at last.' "

In 1796, Canning obtained a visible reward for his services, being appointed one of the under secretaries of state; "Mr. Aust," as Fox observed in the house of commons, "having been superannuated to make room for him, although still as fit for business as at any former period of his life." About this time, Canning was returned member for Wendover; and during the two following years, he appears to have devoted himself with great zeal to the duties of his office. In 1799, he took a conspicuous part in the debates relative to the union with Ireland; and it is worthy of remark, that, while he advocated the views of his patron in his speeches on this subject, he avoided, with great dexterity, committing himself in any manner relative to the catholic question.

During the same year, 1799, he married Joan, one of the daughters and co-heiresses of General Scott. By this union, Canning's pecuniary independence was achieved, and his political consequence considerably increased: his wife's sisters having been previously married—the one to Lord Down, and the other to the Marquess of Titchfield, afterwards Duke of Portland. He now began to assume somewhat more importance in his party, but without emancipating himself from the thraldom of Pitt, whose measures, right or wrong, he continued to support with unabated zeal and increasing talent, not only as a parliamentary speaker, but as a satirical writer. In conjunction with Ellis and Freer, he established the

Anti-Jacobin Examiner, a periodical which, from the malignancy it displayed, and the cool ease with which it immolated its political victims, has been rather appropriately termed the literary Robespierre of its day.

In 1801, Pitt, with his immediate partizans, withdrew from office; they were succeeded by Addington and his friends, whom, as soon as Pitt began to vote against them, Canning assailed with great vehemence. At this period, to adopt an expression of his best biographer, he proved himself to be Pitt's whipper-out, as well as his whipper-in. During the debate relative to the Irish militia bill, he accused ministers of being neither consistent nor uniform. "They know not," he continued, "what they propose, and take no effectual means of carrying their plans into effect. They never advance boldly to their object, but

'Obliquely waddle to the end in view.'"

Nor did he cease, by his pen, to eulogize his great political leader, or to vituperate those whom Pitt thought proper to oppose. About this time he produced that celebrated song in which "the heaven born minister" is described as "the pilot that weathered the storm;" and wrote those satirical effusions, The Grand Consultation, &c. which may rather be characterized as venomous than caustic, and certainly do much more credit to his head than his heart.

At length, the administration of Addington and his friends was dismissed, and Pitt resumed the premiership, with Canning paddling in his wake as treasurer of the navy. Pitt died in 1806; and on a proposition being made to pay his debts, which was warmly supported by his great political antagonist, Fox, Canning insisted that the amount required for that purpose ought not to be considered as an eleemosynary grant to posthumous necessities, but as a public debt due to a public servant.

The friends of the departed premier now retired from office and the administration of All the Talents,

headed by Fox and Lord Grenville, succeeded. The new ministers found in Canning a most virulent, active, and determined opponent. He ridiculed them, with great wit but more gall, in print, and fiercely assailed them with all his oratorical powers in parliament. He opposed some of their measures which were consonant to his own political sentiments; and lent but a cold support to the bill for abolishing the slave trade, (which he had previously advocated with great zeal,) because it was brought forward as a ministerial measure. Night after night was Fox, although nearly in a dying state, compelled to attend in his place, for the purpose of replying to the arguments, or repelling the sarcasms of his ardent and resolute antagonist. On the death of that eminent man, Canning made some observations in parliament, derogatory to his character, for which he was most severely censured: and on the downfall of the Grenvilles, he exulted over them in some poetical effusions, which, says one of his biographers, "reflect indelible disgrace upon the statesman and the man: they are utterly unworthy of his splendid talents, and cast a deep and withering shade over his integrity."

Canning joined the no-popery party, which succeeded the Grenvilles in office, although it was known that his opinions were strongly in favour of catholic emancipation. He had now to encounter a series of terrible attacks from those whom he had opposed and lampooned while in power; but he stood his ground with great resolution, defending himself with admirable dexterity, and returning to every assailant a Roland for his Oliver. One of his anonymous adversaries, at this period, alludes to him in the following terms:—"It is only his public situation which entitles or induces me to say so much about him. He is a fly in amber: nobody cares about the fly; the only question is, how the devil did it get there? Nor do I attack him from the love of glory, but from the love of utility, as a burgomaster hunts a

rat in a Dutch dyke, for fear it should flood a province."

In 1809, a quarrel with Lord Castlereagh led to the resignation of Canning, as well as that of his noble colleague. It appears that Canning had secretly, under a threat of resigning his own post in case of refusal, procured from the senior members of the administration a promise, that Lord Castlereagh should be persuaded to accept some other office, in exchange for the war department, over which Canning felt satisfied that his lordship was not competent to preside. By a breach of confidence, Castlereagh became acquainted with this fact, and he thought proper to require satisfaction for the deceit which his colleague had practised towards him, in endeavouring clandestinely to procure his removal. Canning offered neither apology nor explanation, which, indeed, his lordship did not appear desirous of obtaining, and a duel took place between them at Putney, on Thursday, the 21st of September, 1809. The parties fired once without effect; but at the second exchange of shots, Lord Castlereagh's ball passed through his adversary's thigh. Canning still remained erect, and a third discharge would have taken place, had not the seconds perceived that he was severely wounded; they immediately interfered, and left the ground with their respective principals, without having effected an amicable arrangement. Sheridan observed of Lord Castlereagh, in allusion to this affair: "He is a perfect Irishman, even in his quarrels, for he does not appear to be a whit more satisfied now that he has received satisfaction, than he was before."

When, in consequence of the insanity of the king, who had always been decidedly hostile to the claims of the catholics, the Prince of Wales became regent, Canning openly and unequivocally declared himself an advocate of concession; but he deprecated any discussion on the subject at that period, as it might probably close the door of hope for ever, to those

whom it was intended to assist. "I wish the question at rest," said he, in his speech on Lord Morpeth's motion, in 1812, "not in the way of victory, but of conciliation; not so as to attack the honest prejudices of protestants, but so as to remove them. The time will come, and I trust at no great distance, when mutual moderation and reflection will produce general concurrence." Shortly afterwards, in a debate on the state of the nation, he spoke with equal eloquence and greater warmth on the same subject. He had, he said, on a former night, opposed the motion, concerning the catholic claims, because it involved a censure of ministers, and because he did not think the mode of bringing it forward very well chosen. "Now, however," continued he, "the matter is changed, and I look upon it as a most serious question, when it is considered that we have heard from two ministers, this night, that the doors are to be shut for ever against the catholic claims." He concluded his speech by insisting that the subject ought decidedly to be taken up as a ministerial measure. On the assassination of Perceval he refused a share in the administration, because he understood that no change of opinion had taken place in the cabinet, with regard to emancipation. Shortly afterwards he brought forward a motion, which was carried by a majority of one hundred and twenty-nine, that the house would, early in the next session, take into its most serious consideration the state of the law affecting the catholics; and subsequently again declined an invitation to accept office, ministers being still averse to concession.

In 1812, after a severe contest, he procured his return for Liverpool. The next great public event in his life, was his appointment as ambassador to Lisbon, where there was neither court nor sovereign, at the enormous salary of 14,000*l.* per annum. For accepting this situation, he was so severely censured, as to be compelled. during the election at Liverpool,

in 1816, to enter into an explanation in defence of his conduct. He declared that the appointment was incidentally cast upon him, after he had made private arrangements to proceed to Portugal, for the benefit of his son's health; and that he had resigned the moment he found the Prince Regent of Portugal was not likely to revisit Europe. "Of the seventeen months," said he, "which I passed in Lisbon, during the last six I was as private an individual as any among you. I sent home my resignation in April, 1815, and it was no fault of mine that I was not sooner superseded."

Early in 1816, having been reconciled to Castlereagh, he was induced to go into office as president of the board of control, and supported the celebrated six acts so strenuously, that he was assailed with more virulence than he had been at any former period of his life. The levity with which he spoke of "the revered and ruptured Ogden," (to use an expression for which he has been justly censured,) whose case was brought forward, as an individual who had suffered by the suspension of the habeas corpus act, one of the celebrated six acts, exposed him to many severe attacks. "His language, on this occasion, was denounced," says his biographer, "in an anonymous pamphlet, generally ascribed to Mr. Hobhouse, as a monstrous outrage on the audience it insulted." The writer concluded his work with the following passage:—"If ever you accuse *me* of treason, throw me into prison, make your gaolers load me with chains, and then jest at my sufferings, I will put you to death!" Although Mr. Hobhouse denied that he was the author of this pamphlet, Canning appears, for years afterwards, to have entertained some ill-will towards him. On one occasion, he even ventured to allude to the two members for Westminster, as "the honorable baronet and his man!"

At the latter end of March, Canning was bereft of his eldest son, a youth of nineteen, on whose monu

ment the afflicted father thus recorded his own grief, and the virtues of him who had so lately been his pride.

Though short thy span, God's unimpeach'd decrees,
Which made that shorten'd span one long disease,
Yet, merciful in chastening, gave thee scope
For mild, redeeming virtues, faith and hope;
Meek resignation; pious charity:
And, since this world is not a world for thee,
Far from thy path removed, with partial care,
Strife, glory, gain, and pleasure's flowery snare;
Bade earth's temptations pass thee harmless by,
And fix'd on heaven thine unreverted eye!

Oh! mark'd from birth, and nurtured for the skies!
In youth, with more than learning's wisdom wise!
As sainted martyrs, patient to endure!
Simple as unwean'd infancy, and pure!
Pure from all stain (save that of human clay,
Which Christ's atoning blood hath wash'd away!)
By mortal sufferings now no more oppress'd,
Mount, sinless spirit, to thy destined rest!
While I, reversed our nature's kindlier doom,
Pour forth a father's sorrows on thy tomb.

In the month of June, in the same year, Queen Caroline returned to this country; and Canning, who was averse to taking any share in the proceedings that were meditated against her majesty, tendered his resignation, which the king declined accepting; at the same time, however, permitting Canning to abstain, as much as he thought fit, from the expected discussions on the queen's conduct. Canning accordingly proceeded to the continent, where he remained during the progress of the bill of pains and penalties. On his return he again tendered his resignation, which, on this occasion, to use his own language, was as most graciously accepted, as it had been in the former instance most indulgently declined.

In 1822 he was appointed governor-general of India; but soon afterwards accepted the foreign secretaryship, which had become vacant by the self-destruction of the Marquess of Londonderry, while Canning was preparing to depart from England. In July, 1823, he was stigmatized, by Mr. Brougham, as having exhi

bited the most incredible specimen of monstrous trickery, for the purpose of obtaining office, which the whole history of political tergiversation could afford. Canning immediately stood up and exclaimed, "I rise to say that that is false!" The speaker then interfered, and a motion was made that the sergeant-at-arms should take both the members into custody; but after some discussion it was withdrawn, on their respectively promising the house to think no more of the matter. They met at the ensuing Eton Montem, and cordially shook hands, says a contemporary writer, in the presence of a thousand admiring spectators.

Canning had, by this time, become deservedly popular, for the spirited and liberal opinions which he had lately professed and most powerfully advocated, as well with regard to foreign as domestic policy. He dissented, pointedly, from the principles of the holy alliance; accelerated, if he did not even produce, the recognition of the republics of Mexico, Columbia, and Buenos Ayres; and insisted on the necessity of aiding Portugal against Spain, with such fervent eloquence, as had rarely, if ever, been heard in parliament, since the setting of those great political luminaries, during whose splendid meridian the dawn of his genius had glimmered.

At the funeral of the Duke of York, in January, 1827, he caught a cold; the consequence of which was a disorder that soon afterwards terminated his existence. Early in March, he delivered a powerful speech in support of catholic emancipation: so intense was his anxiety for the fate of the motion, which was lost by a majority of four only, and so great were his exertions on this occasion, that for a short time afterwards, he was rendered incapable, by illness, of reappearing in his place. Mean while, the friends of Lord Liverpool, who had been attacked by paralysis, in May, lost all hopes of his recovery: the premiership consequently became vacant; and on the 12th

of April, it was announced in the house of commons, that Canning had been appointed first lord of the treasury. Six members of the Liverpool cabinet immediately afterwards resigned; and a powerful opposition was at once organized against the new minister.

Canning struggled with all his expiring energy, to retain his eminence: he sat out the session; but his disease, which is stated to have been an inflammation of the kidneys, gradually gained upon him; and, at length, on the 8th of August, 1827, he expired in the Duke of Devonshire's house, at Chiswick, after having endured more excruciating tortures, it is said, than the brutality of a horde of American savages, or the refined cruelty of a set of Spanish inquisitors, ever inflicted on any one human body. He was buried at the foot of Pitt's grave, in the north transept of Westminster abbey; and a public subscription, amounting to above 10,000*l.* was raised for the purpose of erecting a monument to his memory. Subsequently to his decease, Canning's widow was created a viscountess. He left two sons: the eldest a captain in the navy, the other a student at Eton; and one daughter, who was married, in 1825, to the Marquess of Clanricarde.

"Those who knew this highly gifted man," says Quincy Adams, "testify that his intercourse in private and social life, was as attractive as his public career was brilliant and commanding." He is described, by other writers, as having been a lover of simplicity; generous, affable, unpresuming, without ostentation, and accessible to the humblest individual. In his domestic circle, observes a contemporary author, he was almost adored. To his mother and sister, who were entirely dependent for subsistence, as he stated, on his labours, he gave up one half of a pension, which it appears, had been conferred on him when he retired from the office of under secretary of state. To the former his attention was unceasing and extraordinary: during her long residence at Bath, he vis-

ited her as often as he possibly could, and devoted a portion of every sabbath to write her a letter.

A contributor to a modern periodical describes Canning's dress as having been plain, but in perfect good taste; his person tall and well-made, his form being moulded between strength and activity; his countenance beaming with intellect, but having a cast of firmness, mingled with a mild, good-natured expression; his head bald as "the first Cæsar's;" his forehead lofty and capacious; his eye reflective, but, at times, lively; and his whole countenance expressive of the kindlier affections, of genius, and of intellectual vigour. In the prime of his life he was decidedly handsome, but latterly, continues the writer, he exhibited marks of what years, care, and ambition had done upon him.

Canning died when at the zenith of his political reputation: he had attained the pinnacle of all his earthly ambition, as well with regard to popularity as place. His early errors were forgotten in admiration at his recent spirited, upright, and manly conduct. No unprejudiced mind could withhold its applause from a minister, whose views were at once so eminently patriotic, and so universally benevolent. In his latter days, he was, with two or three glaring exceptions, the advocate of all that was liberal, enlightened, and conciliating. Had he lived, he would, most probably, have become entitled to the gratitude of the world. No political adventurer ever terminated his career more honourably: no man's principles became more ameliorated by his success. The close of his public life was as much deserving of high approval, as its commencement had merited contempt. In the early stages of his progress towards that eminence which he at length obtained, his conduct was governed by his necessities. He had adopted politics as being a more lucrative profession than the law; and had advocated measures in parliament which he was paid, or encouraged by hopes of future emolu-

ment, to support, as he would have defended the causes of those by whom he might have been retained, had he gone to the bar. Circumstances made him a senatorial slave to a powerful party, and for a long period he was compelled to justify measures which he could not afford to oppose. Even after Pitt's decease, with more prudence than virtue, he retained the badge of his political Helotism; and, as his only hope, clung to the principles of the departed premier, as a shipwrecked mariner to the helm of "some tall bark," which, in a subordinate station, he had recently assisted to steer. His struggles secured him that notice which it was his great object to retain. The partizans of Pitt became either his patrons or supporters, and his importance gradually increased. As soon as he could safely throw off the yoke which he had courted, he emancipated himself from thraldom. The first gleam of his independence occurred on his obtaining a competency by marriage: when he had, in some measure, obtained by his talents the individual influence which he coveted, he became more intrepid: as he rose, his views were proportionably enlarged; and, at length, they became extensive, bold, and philanthropic, as his station was exalted.

His death was, by a large portion of the public, attributed to the severe opposition formed against him on his being called to the premiership. His disease was, doubtless, exasperated by the efforts he made to avoid being ousted by his antagonists; but the foundation of that disease had been previously laid, and with the common cares of his high office, or even in the repose of private life, it is doubtful whether his constitution would have withstood it. Nor was the opposition which he had to encounter at all unprecedented, either in talent, resolution, or political power. In the prime of his health and intellect he would probably have grappled with and overthrown it. Pitt, when scarcely a man in years, had defeated an adverse party, which, compared with that arrayed

against Canning, was as Ossa to a wart; and Fox, when he last took office with Lord Grenville, found a more bitter political opponent, in Canning himself, than either of those with whom the latter, on becoming prime minister, had to contend. The fate of these two celebrated men was remarkably similar: weak and enfeebled by indisposition, which was aggravated by the usual consequences of taking high office, Fox, like Canning, rapidly declined, and expired soon after he had obtained that station to which he had most ardently aspired. They died, it has been said, perhaps incorrectly, in the same room, but without a doubt in the same house.

Canning was a stanch advocate for catholic emancipation, and felt more warmly than he expressed himself in favour of the abolition of the slave trade; but to immediate manumission in the colonies he could not be persuaded to agree. While he freely admitted that slavery was repugnant both to the Christian religion, and the spirit of the British constitution, he contended that neither the one nor the other enjoined the necessity of destroying that old iniquity, at the risk of public safety, and the expense of private wrong. He professed that he felt content to retard the introduction of liberty to the colonies, in order that it might at length be ventured upon with less hazard. "British parliaments," said he, in a debate on this subject, in March, 1816, "have concurred for years in fostering and aiding that very system which the better feeling of the house now looks upon with horror. How should we deal with such a system? Shall we continue it? No. But having been—all of us—the whole country,—involved in the guilt, and sharers in the profit of it, we cannot now turn round to a part, and say to them, 'You alone shall expiate the crime!'"

His opinions, on two other great questions, he expressed nearly in the following terms, shortly after his elevation to the premiership: "I have been asked

what I intend to do with parliamentary reform: I answer, to oppose it, as I have ever invariably done. I have been also asked what course I mean to adopt with regard to the test-act question: my reply is, to oppose it."

A very high degree of excellence has, with justice, been attributed to his orations. He enshrined the most appropriate classical allusions, the most brilliant ideas, and the most exquisite irony, in language, which, with rare exceptions, even when uttered without premeditation, no art could refine, to which no labour could give an additional polish. For elegance, and purity of composition, he has, perhaps, never been excelled; and in taste, with regard to rhetorical ornaments, but seldom been equalled. His raillery was often irresistible, his wit pure and poignant, and his humour at once admirably refined, and remarkably effective. He was possessed of so large a share of political courage, that during his whole public life, he was rarely known to flinch from an adversary, however powerful; or avoid an attack, however well-merited. His boldness, especially at the early part of his career, often rose into arrogance; and his retorts degenerated into daring vituperation. But his speeches, as well as his opinions, improved with his years; they became more noble, manly, and conciliating, in proportion to his success; and, at length, he ceased altogether to bolster up a bad case, by reckless assertions; or to overwhelm an opponent with virulence, whom he could not silence by argument. He rarely lost his perfect self-possession, but when in the fervid utterance of his thoughts he rose into the most lofty and spirit-stirring eloquence. As an instance of the effect which he frequently produced on his auditors, it is related, that when, one night, in allusion to the part he had taken in recognising the infant republics, in South America, he exclaimed, in the style and manner of Chatham, that looking to Spain in the Indies, he had called a *new* world into existence

to redress the balance of the *old*, the effect was actually terrific:—"it was," says a periodical writer, "as if every man in the house had been electrified: Tierney who had previously been shifting his seat, removing his hat and putting it on again, and taking large and frequent pinches of snuff, seemed petrified, and sat fixed and staring, with his mouth open, for half a minute."

The beauty of Canning's celebrated poetical pieces, in the Anti-Jacobin, is much debased by the contemptible abuse of those who were opposed to his own party. They are, however, perhaps, the finest political lampoons that have ever been written: one of them, Elijah's Mantle, is particularly vivid, pungent, and felicitous.

THOMAS CHALMERS,

Professor of moral philosophy in the university of St. Andrews, was born about the year 1770, in Scotland, and proceeded to the degree of D. D., in one of the universities of his native country. He officiated for many years as minister of Kilmany; but, having become famous for his oratory, he was invited to Edinburgh, and his reputation still extending, he at length obtained the valuable ministry of St. John's, Glasgow. In 1823, during a brief visit to London, he preached repeatedly to immense congregations. His works consist of An Address to the Inhabitants of the Parish of Kilmany, on the Duty of giving an immediate Diligence to the Business of Christian Life; Scripture References; The Utility of Missions, Ascertained from Experience; An Inquiry into the Extent and Stability of National Revenues; The Influence of Bible Societies on the Temporal Necessities of the Poor; The Evidence and Authority of the Christian Revelation; A Series of Discourses on the Christian Revelation viewed

in Connexion with Modern Astronomy; Sermons preached at the Tron church, Glasgow; The Doctrine of Christian Charity applied to the Case of Religious Difference; The Two Great Instruments appointed for the Propagation of the Gospel; Speech delivered in the General Assembly respecting the Bill for augmenting the Stipends of the Clergy of Scotland; Thoughts on Universal Peace; and various tracts and other pieces, political and religious. Although many of his productions are highly honourable to the talents of Dr. Chalmers, his reputation principally rests on his pulpit eloquence, which is remarkable for the power with which it appeals to the feelings, and convinces the judgment of his auditors.

FRANCIS ATTERBURY, BISHOP OF ROCHESTER.

Francis, son of Lewis Atterbury, a time-serving divine, was born at Milton-Keynes, near Newport Pagnel, in 1662. After having greatly distinguished himself at Westminster school, he was elected to a studentship, at Christchurch, Oxford, where he soon became conspicuous for classical attainments and poetical abilities. In 1684, he took the degree of B. A.; and, in 1687, that of M. A. During the latter year, he published his first work, entitled, Considerations on the Spirit of Martin Luther, &c.; and it is suspected that, about the same time, he assisted his pupil, Boyle, in the controversy with Bentley, relative to the Epistles of Phalaris. Disgusted with a college life, and feeling himself, as he stated, "made for another scene, and another sort of conversation," he adopted the advice of his worldly-minded father, (who had advised him to form a matrimonial alliance, which might better his prospects,) and married a relative of the Duke of Leeds, named Osborne, who possessed a fortune of 7,000*l.*

In 1691, he entered into holy orders; and, two years afterwards, became chaplain in ordinary to the king and queen, preacher at Bridewell, and lecturer at St. Bride's. The spirit and elegance of his discourses soon rendered him popular; while the tendency of his opinions to high-church doctrines, exposed him to the attacks of Hoadly and others, with whom he willingly entered into a controversy. In 1700, he commenced a dispute with Dr. Wake, on the rights, powers, and privileges of convocations, in which he supported the principles of his ecclesiastical party, with such zeal and dexterity, although with little Christian charity or candour, that, at its conclusion, four years afterwards, he received the solemn thanks of the lower house of convocation, and the degree of D. D.; although he was not then of sufficient standing in the university to have obtained it in the regular course.

On the accession of Queen Anne, he became chaplain in ordinary to her majesty; and, two years afterwards, Dean of Carlisle. In 1705, appeared a pamphlet, entitled, The Christian Religion, as professed by a Daughter of the Church of England; of which he was suspected, and accused by Lord Stanhope, of being the author. In 1707 he was made a canon of Exeter cathedral; and, in 1709, preacher at the Rolls chapel. He engaged in another controversy with Hoadly, on the doctrine of passive obedience; and aided materially in the defence of Sacheverell, for whom he is stated to have become bail. At this time, he was prolocutor to the lower house of convocation; and, as it is alleged, wrote, and privately circulated, a work, which was deemed too grossly violent to be presented to the queen, entitled, A Representation of the present State of Religion. In 1712, he was made Dean of Christchurch; and, in the following year, by the recommendation of Lord Oxford, Bishop of Rochester, and Dean of Westminster.

On the death of Queen Anne, it is asserted that he

offered, with a sufficient guard, to proclaim the Pretender in full canonicals. George the First, who was, doubtless, aware of his political sentiments, treated him with marked coolness; and Atterbury evinced his disaffection towards the new monarch, by refusing to sign the loyal declaration of the bishops, during the rebellion, in 1715; and suspended a clergyman in his diocese, (Gibbin, curate of Gravesend,) for allowing the performance of divine service in his church to the Dutch troops, who had been brought over to act against the insurgents. At length, he engaged in a correspondence with the Pretender's friends, for which he was committed to the Tower, in August, 1722, and, in the following March, a bill of pains and penalties was brought forward against him. He defended himself with great eloquence, but contemptible hypocrisy; meekly, but steadfastly, denying his guilt, which has since been established on authenticated documentary evidence. The bill, although vehemently opposed by many of the peers of Atterbury's party, who declared it to be grossly unconstitutional, was passed into a law; and, by its operation, the bishop was stripped of his benefices, exiled for life, and deprived of the society of British subjects residing abroad; they being forbidden to visit him, without permission under the king's sign manual, which, however, was not withheld from any of his relatives.

In June, 1723, he proceeded, with his favourite daughter, Mrs. Morice, to Brussels; and, soon afterwards, fixed his residence at Paris, where he amused himself, chiefly, during the remainder of his life, in corresponding with eminent men of letters. But his love of political intrigue, appears to have never subsided. While pretending to be wholly devoted to the enjoyments of literature, and affecting, even in his correspondence with Pope, to be a friend to the constitution as it then existed, he was secretly contributing, as a collection of letters, published at Edinburgh

in 1768, unquestionably prove, to the advance of the Jacobite cause in the Highlands. His last years were much imbittered by the death of his favourite daughter, Mrs. Morice, the voluntary companion of his exile, who expired in his arms, in 1729. He had three other children by his wife, (who died in 1722,) of whom, only one, Osborn, Rector of Oxhill, in Warwickshire, survived him. His own death occurred in the month of February, 1731, and his remains were permitted to be brought to this country, and privately interred in Westminster abbey.

Although remarkably turbulent, aspiring, and contentious, Bishop Atterbury succeeded in obtaining a high character for moderation and humility, from many of his contemporaries, by an affected suavity of deportment, and a hypocritical mildness of expression. Few prelates have evinced a more intemperate spirit of partizanship, or a greater share of daring ambition. He was hostile to civil and religious liberty, from political, rather than conscientious motives; passive obedience, and non-resistance, being among the chief tenets of the party, to which he had deemed it most prudent to attach himself. Early in life, according to a statement made by his friend, Pope, to Lord Chesterfield, he was a sceptic with regard to revealed religion; from which, however, it is added, he derived his chief consolation during his adversity. It would be absurd to deny him the possession of considerable talent: he was an effective preacher, and an admirable parliamentary orator; yet, he enjoys more celebrity as an author than he appears to deserve. This may be attributed to his intimacy with the literary aristocrats of his day, who, influenced by friendship, or party prejudices, ascribed to his writings a degree of excellence, which they do not, in reality, possess. His controversial productions are brilliant, but shallow; his criticisms evince more taste and fancy than erudition; and his translations from Horace have, as it is now generally ad

mitted, obtained greater praise than they merit. His sermons, however, it must be confessed, are clear forcible, and, though never sublime, occasionally eloquent and pathetic; and his letters, on which his fame, as a writer, must principally depend, are superior even to those of Pope: but the great delight which a perusal of them would otherwise afford, is marred, by a conviction, in the minds of those who are acquainted with the circumstances of his career, that no dependence can be placed on his sincerity. "Atterbury," says Horace Walpole "was nothing more nor less than a Jacobite priest: his writings were extolled by that faction; but his letter on Clarendon's history is truly excellent." He appears to have married from motives of interest, and his elder brother, Lewis, rector of Shepperton and Hornsey, in Middlesex, a plain and benevolent divine, is said to have had reason to complain of his neglect.