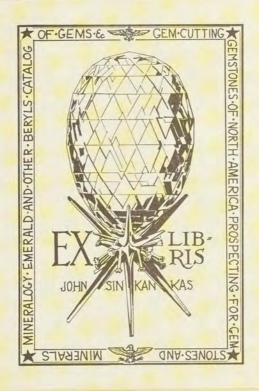
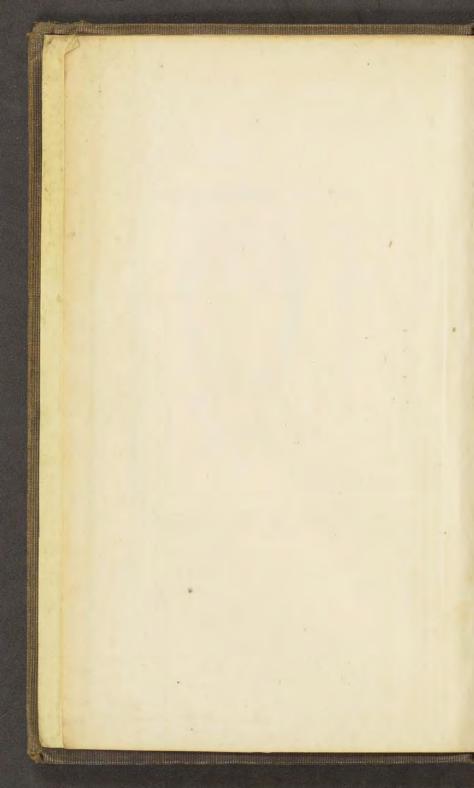
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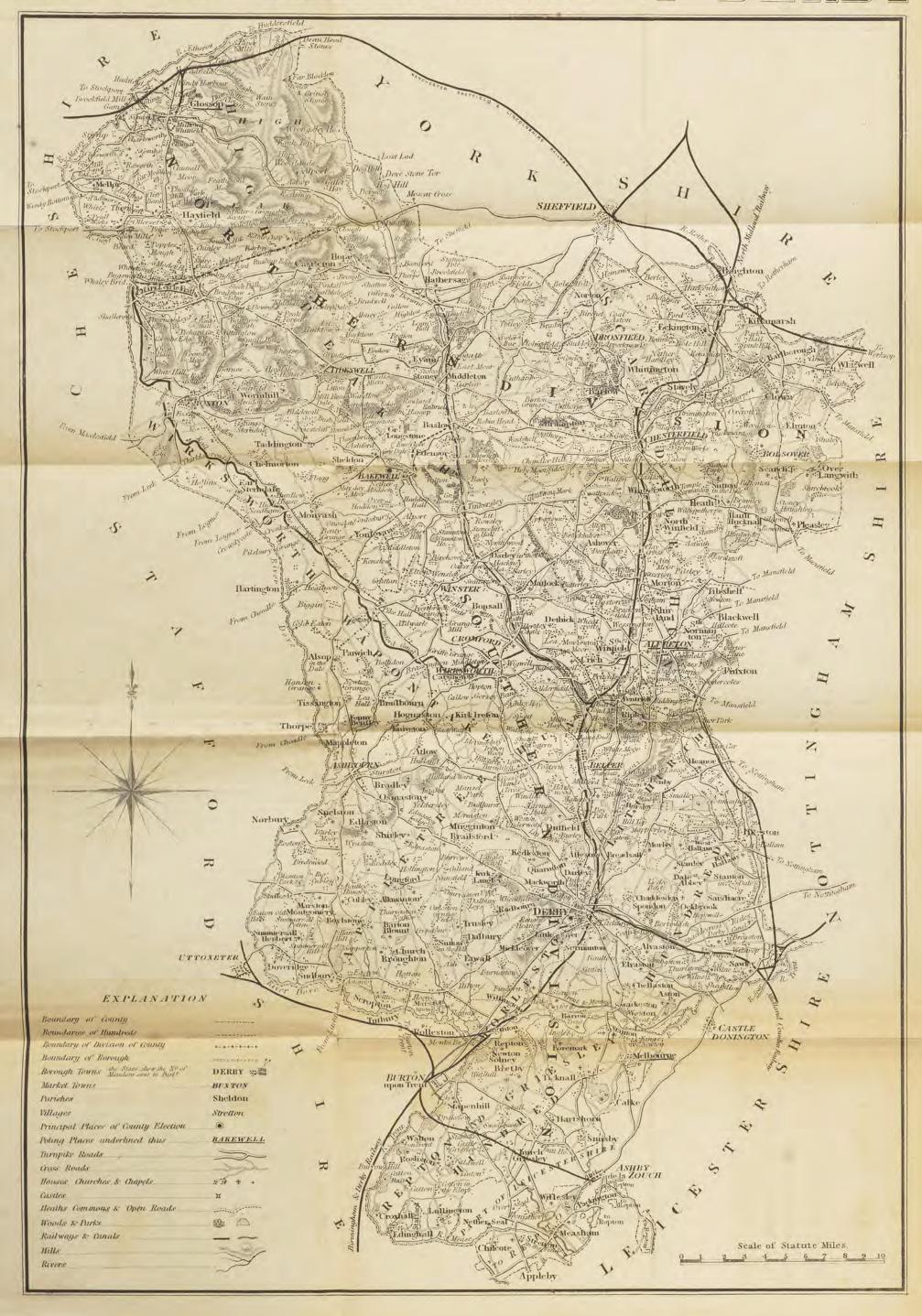
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MAP OF THE COUNTY OF DERBY



THE

GEM OF THE PEAK;

OR

MATLOCK BATH AND ITS VICINITY.

AN ACCOUNT OF DERBY;
A TOUR FROM DERBY TO MATLOCK;

EXCURSIONS

TO CHATSWORTH, HADDON, MONSAL DALE,
DOVEDALE, ILAM, ALTON TOWERS, HARDWICK, WINGFIELD,
NEWSTEAD ABBEY, ASHBOURNE, BUXTON, AND CASTLETON,

HISTORICAL AND GEOLOGICAL;

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE FLUOR SPAR, FROM THE EARLIEST PERIOD DOWN TO THE PRESENT TIME;

A REVIEW OF THE GEOLOGY OF DERBYSHIRE;

CATALOGUE OF MINERALS AND ROCKS,

AND OF THE FLORA OF THE HIGH AND LOW PEAK.

ILLUSTRATED WITH MAPS AND NUMEROUS ENGRAVINGS.

FIFTH EDITION.

BY W. ADAM.

"That picturesque and interesting portion of our island, the Peak of Derbyshire, has long been an object of attraction to our tourists and lovers of natural scenery; and its romantic hills, with their rugged declivities; its expanded meadows, with limpid fishing streams winding through them, visited by anglers of every generation, from the days of the venerable Izaak Walton, to those of the illustrious and lamented author of the "Sadmonia;" its moors and woodlands, with the wild situation of the celebrated Buxton; the secluded and remarkable ravine or picturesque dell of Matlock Bath; and the varied beauty, in locality, of the ancient Saxon town of Rakewell, with its fine old Norman church, and the tombs of the Vernons, its Roman Bath and ancient intenchments, situated on the Wye, and in the vale of Haddon Hall; form a combination of attractions to our countrymen not, we believe, to be found within the same narrow boundaries in any other part of our island; what Switzerland, Scotland, and other mountainous countries possess on a large scale, the Peak of Derbyshire contains in concentrated miniature."—Mirror.

JOHN AND CHARLES MOZLEY,

DERBY; AND No. 6, PATERNOSTER ROW, LONDON.

BEMROSE, W. AND W. PIKE, AND WILKINS AND SON, DERBY;

BEMROSE, MATLOCK BATH; GOODWIN, BAKEWELL;

BRIGHT AND TURNER, BUXTON; AND HOON, ASHBOURN.

. John and Charles Mozley, Printers, Derby.



TO HIS GRACE
THE DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE.

MY LORD DUKE,

A work professing to describe the beautiful mountain scenery of the Peak, with its magnificent Caves-the remarkable position and singular prosperity of Buxton-the romantic beauties of Matlock Bath-the ancient and attractive remains of Haddon Hall-and your Grace's splendid "Palace of the Peak," with its enrichments in Art and Science, can only with propriety be dedicated to your Grace; as all these, which form the chief and distinguishing features of the County, have received an accession of beauty and interest from the liberality, good taste, and munificence of your Grace, and your Grace's Noble Ancestors. These considerations, as well as a deep feeling of gratitude for the great kindness with which your Grace has been pleased to favour me, induced me to solicit your Grace to Patronize the Work; and I can never forget the condescending manner in which that permission was granted, and trust that it will be found that your Grace's patronage has not been misplaced.

I have the honour to be, with profound respect,

My Lord Duke,

Your Grace's most devoted and obedient Servant,

WILLIAM ADAM.

LONDON.												1000	~~~			٠	~~~	~~~~~~~
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ADDITIONS TO THE DISTANCE TABLE.—ALTON TOWERS is distant from London about 149 miles; Stafford 19; Cheadle 4; Ashbourne 9; MATLOCK 21; Buxton (through Leek) 23; and Derby 22. HARDWICK HALL is about 145 miles from London; Chesterfield 7; MATLOCK 17 (carriage drive); 13, (equestrian); Buxton 30; Bakewell 21; and Derby 18. NEWSTEAD is 5 miles from Mansfield; Nottingham 7; Matlock 22; Hardwick 12, by Mansfield; and Alfreton 12.

PREFACE.

THE object of the Author in writing this work, has been to describe and concentrate as much information as possible, respecting those places which are generally considered of sufficient consequence to induce a visit from the Stranger, and to avoid remark on those not of particular or local interest. In doing this, he has availed himself of every help within his reach; especially as it regards the historical portions; and he therefore begs to make this general acknowledgement wherever the references have not been given.

But as it regards the general details, the Author has written from observation alone; referring constantly to those Notes he has been in the habit of making for some years past, on every object of interest connected with the Peak—or personally visiting each place previous to its being de-

scribed.

It is a matter of high congratulation to every feeling and rightly constituted mind, to find that the Great Author of our being has not only furnished us with an interesting, free, and glorious system of revealed Truth, by which we may acquire a competent knowledge of, a high preparation for, and a sweet enjoyment in anticipation of, intellectual and unseen glories in a future state of things; but has also beautifully furnished and adorned our world with such numberless objects of the most pleasing nature and of the deepest interest, all highly calculated to draw out the mind and engage its best powers in the contemplation of Himself—the "Alpha and Omega" of the entire universe.

To the Tourist these are presented in the richest variety, and in the fairest and most beautiful forms; and as he proceeds, every mile presents a new feature, and ministers equally instruction and delight. An author, therefore, who attempts to give information on such subjects, without keeping the moral and intellectual improvement of his race in view, or without being impressed with the tendency and end of all these things, will fail in the right execution of his task; for it can only be in connexion with such views that the great object of man can legitimately be obtained; that is, his present and future happiness. Should the Author, in this his humble attempt, be the means, in any measure, of producing such delightful effects, and adding to the happiness of those into whose hands his book may fall, his labour and toil will be amply rewarded.

PREFACE TO THE FIFTH EDITION.

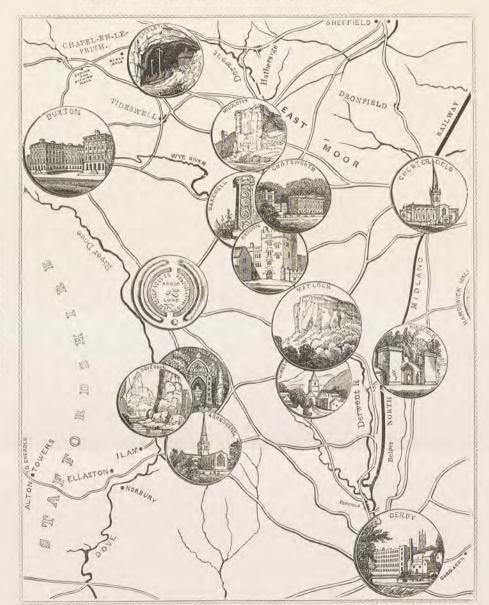
THE Author most thankfully acknowledges his deep obligations to his friends and the public in general, for the high favour with which the Gem has been received and read—which has called for a Fifth Edition in so short a time. It was no sordid motive that first induced him to write it; but a pure love of that beautiful district which he has attempted to describe, and in which he delights to dwell. It is therefore highly gratifying to his feelings to find that his labours, though humble, are appreciated.

INTAGLIOS, OR DERBYSHIRE GEMS:

ILLUSTRATIVE OF

SOME OF THE MOST INTERESTING AND BEAUTIFUL OBJECTS IN THE COUNTY.

PROPERLY PLACED ON THE FOUR DIFFERENT LINES OF ROUTE, COMMENCING AT DERBY.



GREAT MIDDLE ROUTE TO CASTLETON AND BUXTON.

DERRY OLD SILK MILL, TOWER OF ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, ETC. WIRKSWORTH CHURCH.
MATLOCK HIGH TOR.
ENTRANCE TOWER, HADDON HALL.

DRUIDICAL CIRCLE, ARBOR

LOWE.

ASHBOURNE, ALTON TOWERS WEST ROUTE FROM DERBY.

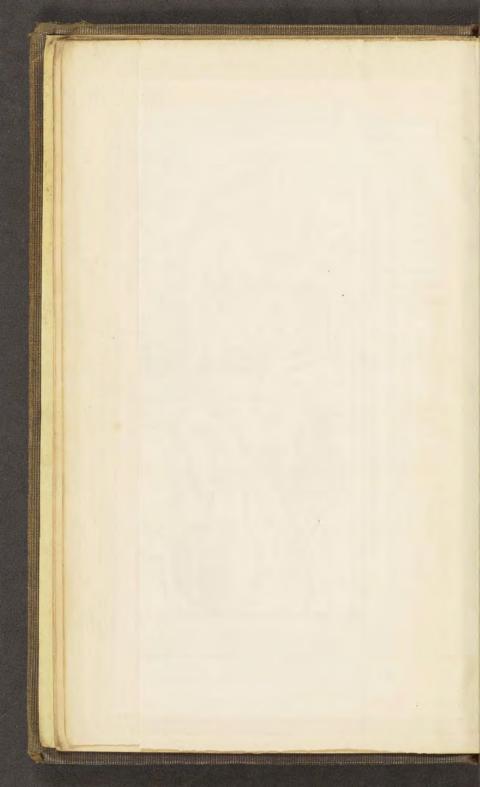
BUXTON CRESCENT.

OLD CROSS, BAKEWELL.
CHATSWORTH.
LOVER'S LEAP, MIDDLETON DALE (STONY).
ENTRANCE TO PEAK CAVERN, CASTLETON.

GAST ROUTE TO SHEFFIELD.

GATEWAY, SOUTH WINGPIELD MANOR. | NORTH MID!

NORTH MIDLAND RAILWAY LINE.
CHESTERFIELD CHURCH, WITH CROOKED SPIKE



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PART I.

CHAPTER I.

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DERBY.

DERBY is delightfully and most advantageously situated in the southern part of the county, on the banks of the Derwent, amongst fertile plains and undulating hills-a portion of that fine fruitful belt which intersects England; running south-west and north-east, from the mouth of the Ex in Devon to the Tyne, at the foot or lower escarpment of the carboniferous limestone series which abounds with coal, ironstone, and lead ore, materials forming the wealth and strength of our nation, and nourishing and employing the most numerous of our population. As Dr. Buckland justly remarks on this interesting geological portion, it will be found the most densely populated, and it forms a striking contrast to the two other geological divisions, or belts, dividing our country; the one being almost wholly agricultural, and the other mountainous and chiefly barren. Derby, thus admirably situated, and in the immediate neighbourhood of its mineral wealth, has risen to great importance within the last half century. It is now the terminus of some of the most important Railways in the kingdom; namely, the great North Midland, Midland Counties, and Birmingham and Derby, now united under the name of the Great Midland

Railway, embracing and concentrating in itself lines of communication with all the great Manufacturing, Commercial and Agricultural wealth of Great Britain: we may therefore easily imagine that Derby will rapidly advance, and acquire an extent proportionate to its superior advantages. The easy transit of all the products of the county to every part of the kingdom by canals, &c. has contributed greatly to its enlargement. Within the period of which we speak, Derby has nearly trebled its population, which consists of upwards of

43,000, and it is still rapidly on the increase.

MANUFACTURES .- The Silk Mill, erected and completed in the year 1718, by Mr. John Lombe, was the first established in this kingdom,* and was filled with machinery for winding, twisting, doubling, &c. It is now in the occupation of Mr. Taylor. Derby is also distinguished for its manufactures of lace, galloons, broad silks, silk hosiery, china, jewellery, &c.; several new and extensive mills and manufactories have been built within the last few years, and the machinery made in Derby is not surpassed by any, even in Manchester, or any other part of the kingdom. It has also its manufactories of wrought iron, and castings of all kinds, + and iron wire; paint works, a manufactory of beautiful porcelain, spar and marble works, the shot tower (a conspicuous object), are all important branches of trade and commerce, and never-failing sources of industry and wealth to its inhabitants. Market Place is quadrangular and spacious, occupying more than an acre, and surrounded with good buildings and shops. The Town Hall, a fine building, occupies the chief part of the south side, altogether forming a magnificent square. Seen on a market day, when crowded with stalls and the neighbouring peasantry, a stranger may then have some idea of the activity and energy of the inhabitants, and of the dense population of the surrounding districts. The new County Prison and spacious church, All Saints, with one of the finest towers in the kingdom, are striking objects-the latter especially distinguishes Derby. In the eastern division, on the southern side of this church, is the dormitory in which

machinery is of the most perfect description.

+ The Warwick and other ancient Vases are admirably and accurately cast in Iron; also Tripod Stands, Brackets, &c., for Tables, at the Britannia Foundry.

^{*} There are now besides the original mill about twenty others, in which are employed upwards of 4,0.0 persons in throwing, weaving, &c. and the machinery is of the most perfect description.

are the monuments of the Cavendish family; and several of that illustrious house are buried in the vault beneath. Here is a monument of the celebrated Countess of Shrewsbury, who built Chatsworth, Hardwicke, Oldcotes, &c., who died in 1607. The handsome and spacious Royal Hotel, Atheneum, and Post Office, recently erected in the Corn Market, (originally an inconvenient and unsightly place) are marked features in the march of improvement in the town of Derby. The Railway Station is one of the largest and most magnificent in the kingdom, the length of the front being 1050 feet.

Derby has its noble Infirmary, which was commenced in 1806, and finished in 1809, and on a sufficient scale to accommodate upwards of eighty patients. The Lecture Hall of the Mechanics' Institution is spacious and handsome.

Derby has also its Philosophical Society (which first met at the house of the celebrated Dr. Darwin) with an admirable Library attached, Philosophical Apparatus, Fossils, &c. &c. And perhaps no town exceeds Derby in the number and variety of those societies and institutions for the instruction of the young, and for the spreading of religious truth, without which nothing efficient could be done for the moral advancement or happiness of our species.—It has its National and Lancasterian Schools, Girls' Schools, Infant Schools on the system of Wilderspin, and Sunday Schools in abundance, by which great good has been effected, and its Bible and Missionary Societies, &c., were early established. The new National School, Christ Church, and Savings' Bank, are recent and good buildings. We have elsewhere noticed the new Roman Catholic Church, and St. Alkmund's, which are a great ornament to the town.

The first Newspaper published in Derby was the British Spy, or Derby Postman, in 1726, which soon ceased after the appearance of the Mercury in 1732. This is now published by Mr. Thomas Newbold. The first impression of the Reporter was published January 2, 1823, by Mr. W. Pike; the circulation is now between 2000 and 3000; Mr. Adams

is the editor.

ARBORETUM.

This beautiful addition to the town of Derby was opened Sep. 16, 1840.—Joseph Strutt, esq., whose enlightened views and benevolent purposes had been long known and appreciated, originated it with a view to benefit his fellow-townsmen. For this purpose he selected a site on his own property to the South of the town, and called to his aid the late Mr. Loudon, whose ability, experience, and refined taste in such things were brought to bear with admirable effect in laying out the grounds, so that a spot possessing few natural advantages as to any thing like fine scenery, is converted into a very paradise. One magnificent walk, made direct from the north Lodge gates, extends nearly half the distance up the grounds, and divides them in about equal proportions; while two other main walks diverge from the same point, and, after taking many a wavy turn, completely encircle the whole: from these, lesser walks diverge, communicating with the central one. Sinuous embankments and mounds have been thrown up on each side of the walks, and in other parts of the grounds, which, while they exclude from view one part from another, and create in the mind that imaginary feeling which clothes unknown space with infinity, serve to throw over the whole the grace and apparent negligence of nature, which is the very perfection of artistical gardening.-The reader has only to imagine all this laid out over an extent of many acres, judiciously planted with numerous rare shrubs, plants, and trees, with here and there an elegant classic vase or figure on a pedestal-pavilions and arbours entwined with creeping plants, and all this surrounded by a belt of thousands of evergreens and trees, and he may form some idea of the Derby Arboretum.

The entrance to these lovely grounds is by two Gothic Lodges.—The one at the Northern extremity is in the Elizabethan order, and the Southern one in the Tudor style, and both elegant and suitable structures.—Each lodge has a public room for the use of parties who may choose to take their own refreshments, and "pic-nic" it in the grounds, a great advantage to parties coming from a distance, as well as to families in the town, who, on fine summer evenings, may regale themselves with tea, &c., in this sweet retreat, and inhale

the fragrance of its thousand Shrubs.

Mr. Loudon prepared a catalogue of the plants, shrubs and trees, for the use of the visitors, and a copy of his celebrated Arboretum Britannicum is kept in the Lodges for reference by parties who wish for more particular information. The scientific name of each plant, English name, habitat, height, year of introduction, natural order, &c., are

DERBY. 5

let into brick tallies, glazed and placed in the ground about five feet from the plant.

The whole when completed was estimated at £10,000. and this splendid and beautiful property the late Mr. Joseph Strutt made over in perpetuo to the Town of Derby under certain regulations. The inhabitants received it at his hands with the warmest demonstrations of gratitude and befitting enthusiasm;—the day being kept as a complete holiday in Derby.

The Arboretum is under the management of the Mayor for the time being, four of the members of the Town Coun-

cil, and two other gentlemen who are elective.

It is open to all classes of the public, without payment, from sunrise to sunset (except that it shall never be opened earlier than six o'clock in the morning, or later than nine in the evening), on Wednesdays and Sundays, (except between the hours of ten and one on the latter day); strangers, and the public generally, are admitted daily by the payment of Sixpence each; but there are small Annual Subscriptions, by the payment of which, families resident in Derby and the neighbourhood, may have access to the Gardens at all seasonable times.-The sums raised by such means are employed to defray the expense of keeping the grounds in order, as Mr. Strutt has wisely left their maintenance in trust with the public who are to enjoy them .- The author enjoyed a delightful hour here with some friends in Sept. 1841, while waiting for the Train; and we should recommend all parties, who may have an hour on their hands, to visit the Arboretum by all means, it being but a short distance from the Station. Before we quit this interesting spot we must remark, that here the working classes of Derby have a place of delightful resort, calculated alike to administer to their health and pleasure, and to refine and cultivate their taste, by affording them frequent opportunities of beholding the noblest combinations of artistical gardening.

Whilst referring to the subject, it may not be out of place here to mention that the recent formation of a Local Board of Health in Derby, consisting of the Town Council, will no doubt be found to exert a most beneficial influence upon the sanitary condition of the inhabitants. The Board was constituted, in July, 1850, during the Mayoralty of James Haywood, esq., whose indefatigable exertions in organising its operations, gained for him universal esteem. The important

objects of such a Board are now ably promoted by the present Mayor, Douglas Fox, esq., and many gentlemen of activity and experience on the council, who are associated with its committees. The offices of their clerk (Mr. Joseph Jones), of their surveyor (Mr. Harpur), and other officers, are at the Town Hall, where the business of the Board is conducted.—Apropos to this it may be right to mention, that the directors of a new Waterworks Company have this year commenced supplying the town with good and wholesome water for domestic use. This must essentially contribute to the health and comfort of the town, and will doubtless be found a valuable auxiliary in carrying out sanitary regulations. The offices of the Company are in the Wardwick, and Mr. Francis J. Jessopp is their secretary.

DERBY STATION.

This is one of the most complete and magnificent Stations yet erected. It has a frontage of one thousand and fifty feet, and the whole interior, comprising sheds, workshops, engine-houses and offices, is on the same stupendous scale; perhaps no single Station presents in so high a degree, a picture so striking of the vast extent and perfection of steam power on railroads as this! In fact, as the author saw it, shortly after the opening of the Great North Midland, it exhibited a scene of such unusual energy, activity, and grandeur, as could scarcely be equalled.

The principal entrance is in the centre, over which is a a large handsome window, surmounted by an ornamental shield, on which are carved the Derby, Sheffield, and Leeds, armorial bearings; on the wings are displayed the Arms of

Birmingham, Leicester, Nottingham, and York.

The buildings comprise a handsome hall, offices, waiting and refreshment rooms, with requisite conveniences, two hundred and thirty feet long, three stories high, with a façade wall extending each way four hundred and ten feet, with openings for the departure of passengers on their arrival. The passengers' shed extends the entire length of the walls and buildings, covered with an extremely light elegant iron roof, of forty-two feet span; the centre part of the passengers' shed, fifty-six feet span, and one bay more of forty-two feet, including under them nine lines of rails with requisite turn-tables. The whole length of this immense central portion is four hundred and fifty feet, with a width of one hun-



G. Rowe Cheltenham

DERBY RAILWAY STATION & MIDLAND HOTEL



dred and forty, supported by sixty handsome iron columns, twenty-two feet high from the top of the rails. The parade or platform, which is formed of large Yorkshire stone landings of superior quality, has a width of thirty-one feet, and is furnished with four very large iron tables for the adjustment of passengers' luggage; this part is exclusively appropriated to the departing trains, while the platform at each extreme end, with a width of sixteen and a half feet, is devoted entirely to the incoming trains, so that in this noble station there is every facility for receiving and despatching four large trains at the same moment, without any possible danger of collision or confusion. This noble area is splendidly lit by two hundred and sixteen gas lamps-two being appended to each column, four to the iron tables, and the remainder to forty stone columns on the parade. The stranger on passing through the HALL, enters one of the most magnificent sheds in Europe, extending each way to his right and left, five hundred and twenty-five feet; or, if he enters by train at either end, he has before him a vista of upwards of a thousand feet of shed. To complete the description of the passengers' shed. we should observe that it has a very great length of skylight in the crown of the roof.

Beyond this part, to the South, there is an extensive network of rails for luggage wagons of all sorts, and the working or exercise of engines, &c., and in communication with the vast workshops belonging to each of the three companies, now united into one, under the title of the MIDLAND RAILWAY—the North Midland are in the centre, the Midland Counties branch off at an angle to the east and north, and the Birmingham and Derby and North Staffordshire to the extreme west. The whole area is in the form of a triangle.

and occupies a space of upwards of thirty acres.

The Engine House of the North Midland is a polygon of sixteen sides, one hundred and thirty-four feet across, with a conical roof and lantern over the centre, rising to the height of fifty-four feet, supported by iron columns, and lit by forty-eight windows; this will contain thirty engines. From this building two immense wings are thrown off obliquely—that to the right is the engine workshops, one hundred and eighty-four feet by seventy; and that to the left is the carriage department, one hundred and ninety-one feet by seventy; these are three stories high, the floors supported by columns, and having smiths' furnaces in each; in connexion with other

buildings, the Midland Counties' engine shed is one hundred and thirty-four feet by fifty-two, and their workshops two hundred feet by ninety-three, repairing-shop ninety-three by eighty-eight; all these buildings are supplied with immense tanks, filled from the Derwent by forcing pumps driven by steam power; one of these is fifty-six feet by twenty-six. The goods' warehouses are commensurate with the magnitude of the Station, and nearly on the same base line with the frontage to the eastward.

The refreshment rooms are under the able superintendence of Mr. Cuff, who also conducts the very large establishment, called the "Midland Hotel," which is built in front of the Station, and shown in connexion with it in our Sketch, and where the most ample accommodation and comfort may be obtained at any moment.

ANCIENT STATE OF DERBY.

WE shall now give a slight glance at the ancient state of Derby. And here the able Editor (the late Mr. Noble) of Glover's History of Derbyshire, has given full scope to his imagination, and peopled the beautiful banks of the Derwent with as much facility, though perhaps with less effect than Mr. Nash has so recently done, in the case of the ancient baronial Halls of Haddon.* This author, after referring to its presumed condition under the Saxons and Normans, observes, "From Derby, through St. Helen's, Nuns' Green, Friar Gate, to St. James's, Monastics swarmed like bees on a bank of thyme, and in that direction there was scarcely an inch unappropriated by Monasteries with their pleasure grounds, gardens, and orchards." † That an ancient priesthood, as well as those of the middle ages, should have located themselves on the verdant slopes and gentle eminences of the red marl on the banks of such a stream is highly probable; but although the site of Derby is in the immediate neighbourhood of Derventio (now Little Chester), which was occupied by the Romans, yet we possess no authentic information respecting it at that time. But the fact that these masters of

^{*} See a Series of spirited sketches by this gentleman, lately published, in which he has succeeded in strikingly representing the manners, habits, pastimes, &c., &c. of the period when Haddon was in its glory.

+ Glover's History, page 371, vol. 2.

the world always placed their stations in close proximity to some town, proves that it was a place of some consequence prior to this people obtaining possession of the country. Mr. Hutton supposes it to have arisen out of the ruins of this Roman Station, or as having been a British town upon the British road Rykneld or Icknield Street .- Of this Roman Station Dr. Stukely was able to trace the wall quite round: the enclosure was oblong, and contained five or six acres. Streets or roads were visible in the fields near it, which he supposed to be the suburbs.—Coins of brass, silver, and gold, with antiquities of every kind, have been found, and the foundations of buildings are still sometimes discovered. There are the foundations of a Roman bridge over the Derwent at Little Chester, which may be seen when the water is clear, or felt with an oar. But, to whatever conclusion we may come, one thing is certain, as agreed by all writers, that Derby is of high antiquity, although the founders of it may be unknown.

SAXON AND NORMAN PERIODS.

Ethelwerd, a noble Saxon of the blood royal, states in his chronicle, that Derby was called Northworthige, and that the Danes gave it the name of Deoraby. About the derivation of this name scarcely any two writers agree. The conjecture of Pilkington that it originated in the Saxon word "Deor"-Deer, and by, or "bye" of "Bian" Saxon, to dwell-or a place of abode-because the arms of Derby is a "Deer couchant in a park," is not so likely as that the name gave origin to these arms, as it was so called before deer parks or armorial bearings were used. Skinner (Etymologicon Linguæ Anglicanæ) derives Derwent from the Celtic root "Dwr," water, and "gwen" or "gwin," clear or bright; and the name of the town from that of the river, with the addition of the Anglo Saxon termination "bye," a habitation, as stated above. It most probably arose from "Derwentby," or the town by the Derwent.

The first direct mention which is made of Derby is in the historical records of the seventh century. The Venerable Bede, who flourished about the year 666, mentions it as being in and before his time—" Villa Regalis," and relates an attempt which was made by Cwichelme, king of Wessex, to

destroy Edwin, which he states took place at Derby.

10

In the reign of Alfred, Derby was constituted the metropolis of the county. This king, it is said, "after his memorable defeat of the Danish Prince Hubba, in 880, and the consequent submission of his followers, settled a colony of them at Derby," which now for a considerable period became the scene of a series of severe contests between the Saxons and Danes, being captured and recaptured at different times by each party. Halfdene, the Danish prince, occupied it in 874.

Duke Æthelred, who married Alfred's daughter, the renowned Æthelfleda, and governed the kingdom of Mercia, defeated the Danes in the 10th of Edward the Elder, (911). The Danes were again masters of Derby in 918, but were attacked by surprise, and completely routed by the heroic Æthelfleda, who then governed Mercia with skill and courage after the death of her husband Edwin. In this engagement, the Saxon Chronicle states, she lost four of her principal officers, for whom she had a distinguished regard.

At this time the town appears to have been strongly fortified, and possessed a strong castle, which it is presumed was on this occasion destroyed, but again restored in the time of the Conqueror, as we find it was given to William de Peveril, his natural son. No traces of this castle now remain; the last remains are said to have disappeared about 250 years since. Derby, after a considerable period of quiet, fell again into the hands of the Danes, who were finally dispossessed of this and four other towns, Leicester, Stamford, Nottingham and Lincoln, in 942, by king Edmund I.

About this period Derby was a place of considerable importance, "as is evident from the description given of it in Doomsday book," in which it is described as a royal borough of Edward the Confessor, and adds, that it contained 243 resident burgesses. But it appears to have suffered severely in the wars with the Norwegians and Normans, which succeeded on the accession of Harold to the throne of England: for in the account given of it in the Norman Survey, there were only 100 burgesses, and 40 were minors; while 103 houses which paid tax lay waste.

MODERN PERIOD.

Nothing occurred of importance of a military character to disturb Derby till the ill-timed rebellion of Robert de Ferrers, then earl of Derby, by which he involved that town and its neighbourhood in trouble, and lost his property and earldom for his pains. During the intermediate period, it is presumed Derby had advanced considerably in population and

trade towards the end of the thirteenth century.

In September, 1642, the unfortunate king Charles the First, having set up his standard at Nottingham, passed through Derby with his army, which was immediately afterwards occupied by Sir John Gell, who held it on behalf of the parliament. Here general Fairfax repaired to visit Sir John on his march into Yorkshire to oppose the loyalists. The next event which remarkably distinguished Derby, was the well known rebellion of 1745, under prince Edward, the son of the Pretender. Derby was the goal which terminated that bold and desperate invasion to unseat the house of Brunswick from the throne of these realms.

ORIGINAL CONSTITUTION AND TRADE.

Derby has been a corporate town from early times. Henry the First incorporated the borough, but this was altered and renewed by succeeding princes with an accession of additional privileges and immunities. In the earliest times the town was governed by "Prepositi," or Provosts, till the reign of James the First, when the power was vested in two bailiffs; this king also granted a new charter. This was renewed in 1638, by Charles the First, when the supreme authority of the bailiffs was done away with, the power being vested, as originally, in one chief magistrate, under the title of mayor. Charles the Second, in 1680, granted a new charter, under which the town was governed up to the passing of the Municipal Reform Act, now the governing charter. Under the new act, Derby is divided into six wards, and has twelve aldermen and thirty-six councillors.

Derby has sent members to parliament ever since the year 1294. The right of election was vested in the freemen and sworn burgesses, the number of which in 1712 was about seven hundred, but of course all this has been materially altered, and the number of persons who have a right to vote, by the reform bill. The present number of electors

is about two thousand two hundred.

Of the early staple manufacture or trade of Derby little is known, but it is said to have been famous for dyeing cloth, and that it was also a great mart for wool. King John's charter granted peculiar privileges for the former in favour of this town, excepting Nottingham. Pilkington observes, "Malt was another article for which Derby was famed." Camden speaks of it as being very celebrated for ale; and Fuller says, "that never was the wine of Falernum better known to the Romans than the Canary of Derby to the English thereabout." The word "Ale," says Camden, "is derived from the Danish word "Oel."

The celebrated historian of his native town (Hutton) very beautifully remarks on the impulse given to the trade of Derby in his day. "Derby," he observes, "appears to have crept silently through ages without much connexion with commerce, except what arose from her own tailors, hatters, weavers, and shoemakers, till the beginning of the eighteenth century, when the frame, the river, the silk mill, the porcelain, &c., awakened her drowsy talents to riches, increase, and notice. The man who has known his threescore years can easily discover an improvement in her external buildings and the extension of her borders. He may as easily prophesy that, like an infant whose powers are equal to its magnitude, it can stand upon its own basis, and will rise more rapidly toward maturity." The progress of Derby here so strikingly predicted, we have rapidly sketched at the commencement of this article.

Derby gave the title of Earl to the ancient family De Ferrers; afterwards to the Plantagenets of the blood royal, and subsequently it was given to the family of Stanley, who have

enjoyed it ever since 1485.

There were in ancient times four religious houses in Derby; namely, the Abbey of St. Helen's, founded in the reign of king Stephen, by Robert, Earl of Ferrers, afterwards removed to Derly or Darley; a Priory of Benedictine Monks, in the reign of Henry II.; a small Priory of Cluniac Monks, dedicated to St. James; and a Convent of Dominicans, founded

before the year 1292.

The survey of Doomsday book enumerates six parish churches in Derby; there are now only five parish churches, but nine in all; St. John's, Trinity Church, Christ Church, and St. Paul's have all been built in this century. Saints' is the most magnificent: the money required to build it was raised principally by the extraordinary exertions of Dr. Hutchinson, the curate. It is supposed to have been erected in the reign of Henry VIII. The Gothic tower is one of the most beautiful in the kingdom.

Hutton observes, "The stranger who wanders through Derby in quest of objects worthy of remark, will find some defects, and more beauties, but when he comes to All Saints', he arrives at the chief excellence, the pride of the place," &c. &c.

The Roman Catholic Church, finished in 1839, and the fine church of St. Alkmund, more recently erected, are beautiful specimens of rich gothic architecture, the designs by Pugin and Stevens. The Independents, Baptists, Methodists, &c.

&c., have large and commodious Chapels in Derby.

But as our limits forbid our doing more than give a mere glance at the state of the borough, we must quit the subject—it is simply noticed, being the chief town in the county, and as a starting point from the south to proceed to the "Gem of the Peak," its great ornament, and from which it is only distant sixteen miles whether by road or railway. In proceeding from hence we are presented with the most varying, beautiful, and sublime scenery; increasing every mile in power and intensity, till the traveller is landed amongst the rocky wilds and surpassing scenery of Matlock Bath.

CHAPTER II.

LITTLE CHESTER, DUFFIELD, MILFORD, BELPER, AMBER GATE, RAILWAY TOUR, MILFORD TUNNEL, RAILWAY ROUTE TO LEEDS, HOTSTANDWELL (OR WHATSTANDWELL) BRIDGE, CROMFORD, ETC.

TOUR FROM DERBY TO MATLOCK.

On leaving Derby by the spacious road, ornamented on both sides by the mansions and grounds of the neighbouring gentry and wealthy tradesmen, we gradually ascend till we attain the fine eminences of the new red sandstone. Here, near Allestree, the church of which is seen to the left, if the traveller will take the trouble to look back, is a commanding view of the counties of Nottingham, Leicester, and Derby, stretching towards Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Charnwood Forest, Leicester, Melton Mowbray, and Nottingham, and the Valley of the Trent about equally dividing this beautiful landscape: perhaps a finer champaign country nowhere exists, as it is beautifully watered by the united streams of the Derwent

and the Trent. On proceeding a little further the seat and grounds of Wm. Evans esq., M.P., are seen, which, with the lake in the centre, ornamental timber, good pastures, and park-like appearance—the Hall on the rising ground to the extreme left, and the whole assuming a semicircular form, is On reaching this point the bold features a fine object. of the Low Peak are brought into view and we soon descend into the lovely Vale of the Derwent, with its rich pastures and sweet meadows, here about a mile broad, which gradually narrows on approaching Duffield, a very pretty village four miles from Derby. In this village the old road to Wirksworth and Matlock branches off to the left, thus instantly quitting all the fine scenery through which the new road winds. The church with its spire, situated to the right, on the banks of the Derwent, is an interesting object. the left, are the house and grounds of Charles Colvile, esq., M. P. About two miles further on we come to Milford, where the noble stream is again made subservient to the purposes of the cotton manufacture and bleaching. Here the Messrs. Strutt have erected a large pile of buildings for the spinning of cotton as well as a bleaching mill, and an iron foundry a little above, where all their machinery is cast and formed for the use of their mills; between these the new road passes, leading over a good bridge, erected at its formation. On looking to the right, down the stream, may be seen a pretty little suspension bridge made of iron, connecting the two portions of the mills, one of the first of the kind erected. Here we first reach the outlying masses of the millstone grit and shale, which coop up the road and river into a small space, and form bold eminences on both sides, but on turning an angle of the rock a little further on, the valley opens considerably, and Belper comes into view, and is soon reached.

BELPER

Is about seven miles from Derby, and is become, from a mere village, a thriving and populous town, numbering above 11,000 people, chiefly employed in the manufacture of cotton; here the Messrs. Strutt have one of the largest and best managed cotton mills in the kingdom, where the article is manufactured from the raw state, passing through every process of cleansing, bleaching, dyeing, carding, and spinning into thread of every quality and colour, and about

2,000 hands are constantly employed. The author had the extreme gratification of being allowed the privilege of going over the chief part of these mills in 1836, a favour seldom granted, because indiscriminate admission would

prove a serious hindrance to the parties employed.

These mills were visited, in 1832, by the Duchess of Kent and her present Majesty, then Princess Victoria, accompanied by his Grace the Duke of Devonshire, at the time their Royal Highnesses paid a visit to his Grace's splendid palace of Chatsworth. With the sight of these mills the Duchess and Princess were highly gratified. Here also are extensive manufactories of hosiery, on the right and left immediately on entering from Derby, but the cotton works are situated on the stream at the north end, and are seen on going out to Matlock. There are also extensive nail manufactories, employing many hands. About two miles to the north of Belper there is a manufactory of earthen-ware,* where quantities of those brown glossy jugs, jars, and numberless little toys, are

made and sent all over the kingdom.

Belper is more like a large straggling village than a regular built town, existing chiefly in detached rows of cottages, with the exception of the principal street, and a few good houses, belonging to the Messrs. Strutt, Wards, &c. It stands in an expansive part of the vale, on a gentle declivity of the hilly range, which bounds the right, and is well wooded. The church (which is new) standing on an eminence, with its pretty tower, commanding a good view of the town and neighbourhood, is a beautiful object. A good road, leading to Wirksworth, passes between the Messrs. Strutts' mills, over an excellent bridge built by them, and where they have also formed a strong weir, elevating the river for the use of the mills, built of the freestone found in the immediate vicinity, above which the river assumes the appearance of a lovely, smooth, and expansive lake, made truly ornamental by the admirable condition in which both sides are kept, and where there is a good preserve for fish. The Matlock road inclines to the right on leaving Belper, at the back of the mills, where the river and the house of the late G. B. Strutt, esq. are seen to advantage; here the road again crosses the great North Midland Railway. This part is extremely beautiful. The noble mansion (now occupied by John Strutt, esq.) and grounds on the slope of the hill, amidst rich plantations, the

^{*} Denby Potteries, Mr. Bournes.

highly ornamental stream, with groups of neat, comfortable looking cottages, and sweet meadows, are grateful to the eye and refreshing to the spirits of the traveller. A new and handsome church has been erected near Mr. Strutt's Mills.

About half a mile out the hills to the southwest exhibit a fine undulating, or wavy outline, which characterize the gritstone, but to the left of the road it is quite the reverseabundance of stone walls, or (as they are called) Derbyshire hedges, are the most prominent features. On turning the angle about a mile from Belper, the valley narrows considerably, and begins to assume a bold and mountainous character, the road skirting a steep lofty cliff on the right, covered with gorse and firs; and here to the left may be seen the embankment of the railway where it crosses the meadows towards a low eminence further up the valley, under which it is tunnelled for a short distance. This is the commencement of the celebrated Shining Cliff which bounds the beautiful valley to the southwest, as far up as Hotstandwell bridge, covered with the most luxuriant vegetation, splendid oaks, &c., and abounding with wild plants and flowers. We now pass under the viaduct of the railway, and arrive at

AMBER GATE.

We will now retrace our steps, and take a trip from Derby, via railway, to this point.

RAILWAY ROUTE FROM DERBY TO MATLOCK.

On quitting the station we almost immediately cross the canal and river over which is thrown a handsome stone bridge. The railway sweeps across the beautiful meadows in a slight curve, leaving Derby to the left; from hence some of its more prominent and beautiful objects may be distinctly seen, amongst which the lofty tower of All Saints' stands proudly pre-eminent. The towers of the Catholic Church, St. Almkmund, and the Town Hall, Shot Tower, &c. By another stone bridge we cross the canal and the road to Nottingham. Clearing Derby, we take up the valley of the Derwent, below the road to Breadsall, pass along by Little Chester, (a small hamlet) the ancient site of Derventio, now a ruinous village, then by the manufacturing village of Darley. We soon again recross the Lerwent by a wooden bridge, about a mile below Duffield, and almost opposite to Burley hill. The view up the vale here is exceedingly beautiful.

The valley is bounded on the left by the swelling eminences of the red marl; and on the right by a long ridge of marl crowned with pine, &c., which laps on to the millstone grit near to Milford bridge, by which, and the noble hill in front, the view is bounded. We now quickly pass by Duffield between the church and the village, then pass under the road to Belper, and soon enter the tunnel, which lies about a quarter of a mile to the south of Milford. On emerging from the tunnel (about half a mile long) Milford may be seen below situated on the stream; we again cross the river by another wooden bridge, and the meadow on a high embankment up to the

BELPER STATION.

After a stay of a few minutes we are all again in motion, and pass, by rather a deep cutting, through the middle of Belper, leaving the higher part of the town, and beautiful church with its elegant tower on our right, the long street and principal part being on our left. We clear the town and cutting together, under the bridge over which the high road out of Belper is carried, and then steam over the river and great weir of the Messrs. Strutts' cotton mills by another strong wooden bridge into the meadows beyond. The extensive mills are seen below, and on the bold eminence is the mansion of the late G. B. Strutt, esq., already noticed in our remarks on the roadway. As we advance up the valley the scenery becomes pre-eminently beautiful. The stream is again shortly crossed at two different points, and we arrive at the second short tunnel, which is cut in the millstone grit. On emerging from this we instantly cross the Derwent for the last and seventh time (in the short distance of eleven miles) by an excellent stone bridge, also the road, and pass on through a deep cutting and another short tunnel to the

AMBER GATE STATION, FOR MATLOCK, &c.

from which it is distant about six miles. The railway is continued onward, and crosses the road leading to Ripley &c., and the valley of the Amber (a small stream which falls just below into the Derwent), by a stone bridge and embankment, then by a deep cutting in the shale, it emerges into Buckland Hollow. Here, with the exception of Clay Cross tunnel, has been by far the heaviest part of the work,



Amber Gate Station.

to effect its passage under the canal and over the stream close upon it. To effect which the canal is carried over the railway by a strong iron tank, made at the Codnor Park iron works, and floated from thence by the canal into its position, this is supported by massive stone piers connected with a bridge or viaduct, which is carried over the river and the deep valley of the Amber. The railway then passes on amongst gentle slopes and swelling eminences of the extreme western verge of the coal measures, and through another short tunnel to South Wingfield Park and station; near to which the tower and part of the ruins of the old manor-house may be seen to the left. Leaving this, the line sweeps on towards the Clay Cross tunnel, (a mile and a quarter long); the Butterley Iron Works and Alfreton being considerably to the right. Here the railway enters the great Derbyshire coal The Clay Cross tunnel has been an expensive and difficult piece of work, owing to the nature of the ground gone through, being a soft shale. In cutting it some strong seams of coal have been found. The railway proceeds from hence to Chesterfield, Rotherham, (where it is connected with Sheffield), Barnsley, Wakefield, Normanton, (where it forms a junction with the Manchester and Leeds, and the York and North Midland,) and to Leeds, where the line terminates.

AMBER GATE TO MATLOCK.

To see the scenery to advantage, of course the roadway is preferable, and consequently we give it, as in our former edition, and this will prevent us saying much on the line of rail, which runs nearly parallel with it. The scenery from hence becomes peculiarly interesting, rich in wood, water, and mountain side-with hanging woods, reflected from the glassy stream, that flows for the most part smoothly through the green mead, its quiet, soft beauty exhibiting a striking contrast to the wild cliffs bounding the narrow Vale. At Amber Gate, a road diverges to the northeast leading to Buckland Hollow, through the Collieries and Ironworks, by Alfreton and Chesterfield, to Sheffield. The road to Matlock continues up the Valley and runs near to the Rail and Canal, which are perceived just above to the right, a little further Alderwasley Forge occupies the centre of the Valley at this point, a black and gloomy object amongst such scenery.

Bar iron is made here from the Pig iron.

At Hotstandwell Bridge, (or Whatstandwell), we come into the old road from the north to Wirksworth, which descends by Crich and leads up by Longnor Woods to that town. Passing the Bridge, where the peeps up and down the river are extremely romantic and full of beauty-the Lodge-gate of Alderwasley House is seen, the residence of Francis Hurt, The house is on the south side of the cliff, situated amongst good scenery. The road now skirts the elevated and rugged cliff, literally strewed with broken masses of grit stone, amongst which the noble oak, the birch, and trees of almost every kind, with abundance of underwood, find ample nourishment. The opposite side is somewhat similar; and here all traces of the lovely meads are lost-the river becomes a busy babbling stream, rolling amongst the broken fragments of the cliff-above, on this side, to the extreme right, rises proudly Crich Cliff and Stand, chiefly the property of Mr. Hurt. This cliff is an isolated mass of limestone, thrust up, if we may so speak, through all the overlying beds of the grit, and was once by far the richest Mineral field for Lead Ore in Derbyshire. The scenery here is remarkably wildthe Valley taking a fine sweep northward lays it open to view. Through the thick foliage, to the right, a little further on, may be seen the viaduct by which the Canal is carried

over the river, and the Railway beyond it, but from hence we soon emerge out of the thick wood, and lofty Masson and the heights of Abraham burst upon the view-beneath which are the woods and grounds of Willersley Castle. The castle itself is seen, backed with thick woods. This view is full of grandeur, being enclosed by the loftiest eminences of the Low Peak-Cromford Moor and Lea Woods rising boldly to the right and left of the road, Masson towering in front, and the beautiful grounds of Willersley Castle and Rock House, and the flovely Vale spreading out between them, the river and canal winding through it-beautifully wooded, and clothed with the richest pastures, from the river's margin even to the loftiest summits-the rocks, which in front of the Bath are perpendicular and precipitous, appearing from this point but one continued line to the top of the Heights, being blended with Masson side. The Tor is just seen peering above the middle of the Valley to the extreme north.

RAILWAY ROUTE.

The Matlock, Manchester, and Buxton railway embraces all the scenery which we have now described, but taking a lower level, and occasionally passing through a tunnel, the traveller must be on the alert to see it.

On starting from Amber Gate the rail is carried over the high road to the colliery district and river Amber by a viaduct, and on a high embankment. It then sweeps through a wood close by the canal; and as it proceeds along to Hotstandwell, it affords interesting views of the "Shining Cliff," and woods of Alderwasley. At this last place it passes through a short tunnel, and is at once carried into the deep valley, and amongst the loftier steps of the millstone grit, where the scenery becomes pre-eminently bold and fine. Half a mile on the left may be seen a pretty waterfall, and just beyond, the Cromford Moor sough,* two miles in length, which throw their volumes of hot water into a pretty lake, formed by the cutting of the railway.

Just before this we had crossed the Derwent by a bridge constructed on strong iron piles, and soon again repass it by a similar bridge, then under the canal, which is carried

^{*} This sough was cut in order to drain the mines in Wirksworth hollow or basin.

over it by an iron tank, then into the Lea Wood tunnel, and on emerging from hence, we pass under a branch canal, and the next instant over the river into the beautiful meadows about Lea wood, having the canal, viaduct, waterworks, wharfs, and terminus of the High Peak railway on our left, and Lea, &c., on our right. Here the rail, the canal, the river, the Derby and Crich roads, are close together for half a mile, when the rail sweeps over the lovely meadows belonging to Willersley Castle and grounds (Peter Arkwright's esq.), where views are obtained of Rock House. The fine rocks about Cromford, the Chapel tower, and Willersley Castle itself, backed with rocks and woods of great boldnest and beauty; in fact, the scenery here, seen when the sun is declining on a fine autumnal evening, when the deep shadows fill in the brakes of the rugged rocks, and throw at the same time, a glowing tint over other portions of the landscape, the tower of the Rock House, Chapel, the Castle, the great variety of fine trees and shrubs mantling and studding the meadows, the old bridge, and the river flowing amongst, forms a picture not only of beauty, but at such times, of grandeur. A stone bridge takes us over the river to Cromford station. There it enters Willersley tunnel, cut in the shale (half a mile long), succeeded by a deep cutting of the carboniferous limestone, and immediately we debouch amongst the noble scenery about the High Tor and Matlock Bath, part of which may be seen from the station here, situated at the foot of the Heights of Abraham. Directly ahead, the face of the Tor may be seen, and the beautiful Tor valley and river. The rail takes under the Tor by a tunnel cut in solid limestone, which forms a dry and splendid cover without any artificial support.* Emerging hence, the rail sweeps along meadows amongst bold scenery; the view to the left, looking back, is very fine. To the right is Matlock town and Church rocks, and we arrive directly at the "Bridge" station. From hence the rail pursues its course through the beautiful Dale of Darley to Rowsley station (four and a quarter miles), where the line terminates at present near to Haddon and Chatsworth. Having arrived at Matlock, we will first notice it.

^{*}This is especially the case with the south part, but not with the north, which passing through the toadstone requires arching.

MATLOCK.

THE VISITOR'S INDICATOR,

OR ROAD SKETCHES

TO ALL THE OBJECTS OF INTEREST IN MATLOCK, ITS ENVIRONS, AND THE COUNTY GENERALLY.

PEDESTRIAN TOURS.

	THE HOLDERING TO CHO	
Principal Places. 1. MATLOCK BATH	Distances & Intermediate Objects. Objects to be seen at any hour with proper Guides (if required), and Donkeys for parties who wish to ride	Objects of Interest. The Hot Springs and Baths— petrifying wells-Caverns— Romantic rocks—Heights of Abraham—Zigzag walks —Masson Low, with the loveliest scenery—Lovers' Walks and boats—the Mu- seums—New Church.
WILLERSLEY GAR- DENS and GROUNDS —by Cromford	on Mondays and Thurs- days from ten till four o'clock	
HIGH TOR	Half a mile	The loftiest and most magnificent rock in Derbyshire, perhaps in the country.
		{ Church Rocks - Church - Scenery.
		Church—Fine rocks—Cotton mills—Paint works.
There is a beautiful walk through the Upper Wood Lane and down by the Cumberland Cavern, and Walker's Hotel, or round by the Toll-bar. But there is another still more beautiful along the hill side, or Harp Edge, through the fields and plantations, and over the Crest to Cromford, by taking the stile or stone wicket straight on, instead of turning down by the last cottages of the Upper Wood. The views here are exquisite. One particularly of Willersley Dale, Castle, River, Rocks, &c., is matchless. There is also a very fine walk or ride round by Cromford Bridge, and over by Starkholmes to Matlock Village. The views are very interesting.		
STONNIS, or the BLACK Rocks	Two miles through and up Cromford hill	One of the most magnificent views in England-remarkable gritstone rocks.
WHENCE THE ROUTE MAY BE CONTINUED TO		
WIRKSWORTH	Bath Matlock	Interesting Church — Moot hall—Well-dressing annually—Bank, &c., &c.
,	Two miles over Masson, three miles by Cromford and Bonsall hollow	(Anieturesque mining village

RIDES AND DRIVES.

	RIDES AND DRIVES.	
Principal Places. Do	Stances & Intermediate Object Ten miles by Matlock Bridge and Darley Dale —turn off to the right at six and a half miles, or near Rowsley Bridge, to Beeley, six by Rail to Rowsley, and then by Bus to Chatsworth	A Princely Palace—spiendid Sculpture gallery—State Rooms—Exquisite Wood Carvings—Tapestry—Pic- tures—Pleasure Grounds and Gardens—the most magnificent Conservatory in Europe.
HADDON HALL	Eight miles. Same route as Chatsworth for six and a half miles, then turn to the left over the bridge, through Rowsley —a pretty village, and excellent Inn in the Gothic style—Trout fish- ing station—By Rail and Bus.	A most romantic Old Hall of the Elizabethan period, once the residence of Sir George Vernon, the "King of the Peak," uninhabited, but still kept in complete repair—Fine old state bed —Tapestry or Arras—Pic- tures—Carvings in wood— Garden—Terraces, &c.
WHENCE	THE ROUTE MAY BE CONT	
BAKEWELL	Two miles, or ten miles from Matlock. Trout- fishing station.	Fine Old Church, restored— Monuments of the Vernons &c. &c.—Baths—Chalybe- ate Springs—Marbleworks, and one of the most cele- brated Inns in England.
ASHFORD and MON- SAL DALE	to the Dale (Marble works, and Black Marble Quarries—one of the finest dales imaginable.
SOUTH WINGFIELD	Holloway and Crich— eminently beautiful sce- nery	Fine Old Manor House in ruins, where Mary Queen of Scots was imprisoned for two years.
WHENCE THE ROUTE MAY BE CONTINUED TO		
HARDWICK HALL '	Nine miles further, or seventeen miles from Matlock Bath, through Stretton, Morton, and Tibshelf	A fine old Hall of the Eliza- bethan period—Furniture "en suite"—Old Tapestry
WHENCE	THE ROUTE MAY BE CON	TINUED TO
NEWSTEAD	Twelve miles by Mans- field. Direct route twenty-two miles by Al- freton, Pinxton, and Kirkby, to the "Hut" Public House, on the road between Notting- ham and Mansfield	The residence of Colonel Wildman. Beautiful old Abbey, Pictures, Tapestry &c, &c.
	DOVEDALE ROUTE.	
VIA GELLIA—Road to	Two miles by Cromford and Bonsall Hollow	Romantic scenery—Pools of Water—Falls of Water— Lead works—Paper mill.
	ROUTE CONTINUED TO	
DOVEDALE & ILAM	Thirteen and fourteen miles through the village of Tissington, remarkable for its annual well dressing	The most beautiful Dale and scenery imaginable—Ilam Old Church—Fine Monument, by Chantrey—exquisite pleasure grounds, and Hall in Elizabethan style—emergence of two rivers near each other, Hamps and Manifold.

WHENCE T	HE ROUTE MAY BE CONTINUED TO
Principal Places.	Distances and Intermediate Objects of Interest. Objects.
ASHBOURNE	Four miles from Dovedale, and twelve from Matlock Bath, by the direct route to Ashbourne through Hopton and Kniveton Fine Old Church and Monuments, one exquisitely lovely, by Banks—Grammar School, &c.
ALTON TOWERS* the Earl of Shrewsbury's.	Nine miles further, or twenty-one miles from Matlock Bath
the Leek road into the Che	Alton Towers from Ilam, may go up Blore Pastures, acrossable, which skirts along the high ridge of Weever Hill, and Five Lanes' End, whence turn to Farley and Orrell's Hotel een only on Tuesdays and Thursdays.—The Gardens every unday.
ROUTER ROCKS. BIRCHOVER, & WINSTER.—See Buxton	Six miles to walk over Masson and Winster lane head, eleven miles by near Haddon, and then home from Rocks, by Winster lane head, Grange mill, and Cromford.
BUXTON—Continuation of Nos. 11 and 12, which see	Twenty-two miles from Matlock Bath, twelve from Bakewell, ten from Ashford, by the end of Mathematical Mathematical Section 1.
22. CASTLETON—Continuation of No. 9, which see.	

N. B .- See Table of Distances and Index.

MATLOCK.

"To sit on rocks, to muse o'er flood and fell,
To slowly trace the forest's shady scene,
Where things that own not man's dominion dwell,
And MORTAL FOOT HATH NE'ER OR RARELY BEEN;
To climb the trackless mountain all unseen,
With the wild flock that never needs a fold;
Alone o'er steeps and foaming falls to lean:
This is not solitude; 'tis but to hold
Converse with Nature's charms,'and view her stores unroll'd."

CHAPTER III.

THE PRIMITIVE AND MODERN STATE OF THE DALE CONTRASTED,
ITS GEOLOGICAL CHARACTER, CLIMATE, MINERAL WATERS,
AND EARLY HISTORY.

PRIMITIVE STATE OF THE DALE.

In commencing a work professing to be a description of Matlock Bath, it seems most consistent that we should begin by attempting to describe the primitive state of that lovely Dale in which it is situated, and to the romantic beauties of which it owes its fame.

About a century and a half ago, what is now termed Matlock Bath had no existence—not a human habitation was to be found in the whole extent of its rugged Dale; except perhaps, a solitary miner's hut, and mining coe, scarcely attracting notice from their grey colour and rude construction, so naturally harmonizing and blending with the stupendous cliffs on the shelving sides of which they were placed. Then the lovely Derwent, like a silver thread, wound its solitary way amongst its lofty peaks; here lashing their base and rolling in foam over their broken fragments; and there, where the Dale expanded, hushed into a gentle murmur as it glided over its smooth and pebbly bed, unknown and unheeded, save perhaps by the shepherd when in quest of his

flock that browsed in its recesses, descending the Dale and mingling his shrill whistle with the roar of its waters, or by the untaught peasant from the neighbouring villages and hamlets, who, instead of being reminded by "the church going bell" of his duty to his Maker, strayed and whiled away many an idle hour on holy Sabbath-day to no good purpose; or by the hardy and fearless miner, who threaded his way over its solitary paths, to his accostomed labour in the dark recesses of the mines which abounded, and were worked from time immemorial, in its immediate neighbourhood.

A visit to Matlock Dale at this period, must have been truly imposing amongst such sublime and beautiful scenery. Here on the one hand we have stupendous precipices, with castellated peaks, richly mantled with evergreens, which give a grace and beauty to their bold forms, their sloping bases clothed with brushwood and stunted trees; and on the other a bold ridge, with its steep sides, exhibits immense ribs of rock, descending rapidly from about midway from the top to the river's edge, and ranged in succession like a series of mighty buttresses, as if to give support and stability to the whole, and confining the river to a narrow compass within "these marble jaws, over which it breaks in fury; but escaping these, it assumes the glassy smoothness of a still lake, bordered here and there with what may be termed grass-plots of the richest verdure, sweet resting spots, relieving by their beauty the wilderness around them; and here and there an overflowing hot spring dashed down the rugged tufa margin into the stream.

It is precisely this state of things which now gives to Dovedale, with far less attractions, a decided superiority, and by which it produces a more profound sensation in the breast of the beholder—that is, the absence of all human effort to change its native character, or generally to intrude his dwelling amongst its solitudes. It was this, doubtless, which induced Lord Byron to prefer it. He who loved solitude at times so much as to lead him to remark.

"I love not man the less but Nature more;"

and which led to the following beautiful stanza in his "Childe Harold, which we quote at length, as being peculiarly appropriate to the primitive state of the Dale:—

"There is a pleasure in the pathless woods,
There is a rapture in the lonely shore,
There is society where none intrudes,
By the deep sea and music in its roar;
I love not man the less but Nature more
From these our interviews, in which I steal
From all I may be, or have been before,
To mingle with the universe, and feel
What I can ne'er express, yet cannot all conceal."

PRESENT STATE OF THE DALE.

How altered now from its primitive state of rural grandeur and artless simplicity. A spirit of change has passed over the scene. The tide of civilization (as it is called) has broken in amongst its rocks and hills, and subjected this place, like most others, to great and sweeping alterations, which have not, however, altogether extinguished its matchless beauties. Its High Tor stands as bleak, as lofty, and as prominent as ever, with perhaps the additional grace of a more amply wooded mantle; and this last feature has attained to a wild and magnificent profusion on the less bold but more extended series of rocks opposite to the Bath-only in this way (except it may be a few retired walks) has this spirit affected the bold and rugged aspect of the past on one side of the Dale: but on the other we have fine gardens, cultivated fields, spacious hotels, and baths, splendid shops, lodging houses, and cottages scattered here and there, over almost all the lower and middle spaces-and studded one above another as if on a series of beautiful terraces, which, contrasted with the bold and mantled features of the opposite side, are most enchanting and overpowering to a stranger, when suddenly brought through its rugged portal at "Scarthin Nick," and threading his way through the narrow defile, new beauties and more interesting scenery unfolding every moment to his eye, until he emerges into the more elevated parts, and has a splendid view of the principal portion of Matlock Bath brought fully before him, deeply embosomed in the valley and situated at the base, and on the lower part of the steep and almost perpendicular acclivities of one of its boldest ridges. This ridge rises rapidly at an angle of from 35 to 45 degrees to the height of 800 feet, clothed to the top with the pine, fir, cedar, and beech, and extending right across the Dale, blocking up apparently all further egress in this

quarter except by scaling it, no very pleasant idea to the weary traveller. Added to all these striking changes which have altered its original condition, Matlock can now boast of one of the best roads in the kingdom, and the Railroad, which renders it of easy access from all parts of the kingdom.

STRUCTURE OF THE DALE AND GEOLOGICAL CHARACTER.

The Dale is situated on the extreme eastern verge of the carboniferous limestone, out of which it may be said to have been excavated, chiefly by volcanic agency, and partly by the action of moving water at a remote era, when all or most of the present continents formed the original bed of the This fact both the nature of the toadstone beds and the immense masses of marine exuviæ, or fossil organic remains, attest; and its formation must have been subsequent to the deposition of all the beds of which it is composed, as they are clearly answerable to each other on both sides of the valley-and these beds must also have acquired a considerable degree of consolidation before they were disturbed, as they are nowhere bent or contorted, but rent and broken -forming veins and fissures from the breadth of a hair to fathoms in extent, the smaller ones chiefly filled up with whitish calcareous spar-a purer deposition of the limestone by infiltration through the over-lying beds; the larger with lead ore, fluor spar, zinc, barytes, &c., and some still quite open. Its existence may be dated from about the time of the gradual emergence of our present continents, all of which have been thrown up with more or less violence by volcanic forces deeply seated beneath the earth's surface, and beneath the bottom of the original ocean; but here the paroxysmal action must have taken place with great intensity, and differing in degree at the different points of the Dale, as the High Tor exceeds the general height of the rocks by 150 feet, and a break occurs, of nearly a quarter of a mile, about the middle, where the limestone disappears, and the "talus" of the shale and millstone grit from Riber Hill, descends to the river's edge. From this point the continuous line of rocks is thrown up considerably to the eastward, assuming a far bolder aspect, while a bold ridge, from Masson Hill, advances into the open space which separates the line of rocks, giving to the Dale a zigzag appearance. With the exception

of this point the whole of the eastern side is bounded by massive ramparts of limestone, varying from 200 to about 400 feet, profusely wooded, crowned and fringed to their very summit, with the yew, the box, the hazel, the maple, and towering forest tree of almost every kind, sometimes singularly inserted into their cavities, drinking up and deriving their sole nourishment from the water that filtrates through the rocks, the ivy entwining its delicate tendrils around them, and making its way everywhere up their faces.

The first line is finely curved, extending from the Wild Cat Tor to the Hag Tor, which terminates suddenly in the middle of the Dale (as already mentioned), descending rapidly and running to the eastward, where their under-lying masses are laid bare by the action of the river, near the point where they dip under the edges of the shale and grit. The succeeding and still bolder line preserves nearly a straight course south and north from the High Tor to where it diverges to the eastward for a short distance, then assumes its original direction, gradually losing its bold rocky character, until it terminates suddenly in a knoll or low eminence, where the limestone is entirely cut off, and the river sweeping down in a direct line, and striking against the bare perpendicular northern face, is turned into the rocky defile, and flows close to the base of the rocks throughout the Dale. Here a good section of the limestone is laid bare, presenting the novel spectacle of apparently* an undulating or waved surface, which is continued along the entire of this face, extending in length more than two hundred yards, until these measures are lost by dipping under the shale and grit to the eastward.

On this bold crag Matlock Church and part of the village is beautifully situated. The church, with its tower, peering from amidst the thick foliage which crowns the height, is a fine object from the bridge. Here the Dale expands considerably, presenting some excellent pasture ground and meadows on which the greater part of Matlock village stands, intersected by the Lums, a small brook that falls into the Derwent just under the rocks already mentioned, called the Church Tors, from the fact of the church standing imme-

diately above them.

To return to the opposite side of the Dale, which presents a far different aspect to the one we have been describing, arising from circumstances, the almost invariable result of the

^{*} See Note where this is explained in our excursion to Chatsworth.

violent causes to which it owes its existence. It is observable that all, or most ravines or valleys formed in the limestone, by great force acting suddenly from beneath, present one bold, craggy, perpendicular side, and one with a gradual slope, accessible at most points. The side with the bold craggy face will be on that with the line of dip-that is, if the measures dip to the eastward (as is the case here) the boldest side will look westward, and form what are called the culminating points of the measures. This arises from the fact that the rent and broken fragments rest safely on this face, because inclined the reverse way to the open valley; but on the opposite side to this the inclination of the beds being the same way as the face—that is, dipping into the Dale—the crags (if any) will overhang, and appear in shelving ledges, or steps, and are therefore more likely to be thrown down in the lapse of time, having a tendency to fill up and make this side more of a gradual descent. And in the act, too, of its formation, immense masses of broken fragments of rock of all dimensions are thrown down, which are speedily covered over with the debris of other rocks brought from a distance by the action of water, and deposited in vast portions at all the salient points, where it lies undisturbed, while the water, attaining its greatest force on the other, sweeps it away.

Having made these remarks, we will attempt to trace briefly this side. The only one which admits of sufficient room for Matlock Bath and the other buildings which occur in the Dale, together with the excellent road that now winds through it. And here, on entering, an overhanging cliff presents itself, ranging obliquely and extending upwards nearly midway to the summit of Masson, which at this point, attains the elevation of at least 1000 feet above the bed of the river, and more than 1300 above the sea. A little further on, we find a series of these cliffs running also obliquely up the hill, but in the opposite direction, and thus converging to one point, at a considerable elevation above, where they are all lost in the conical mass of that which is denominated "Masson Lowe." Between the extreme limbs of these cliffs there is an immense broken mass of limestone, and trap boulders and fragments, some of vast size, filled up with the debris or loose rubble. The largest and most perfect cliff*

^{*} The intermediate cliffs are detached and much broken.—One of these overhung the road for some years, and during one wet season the whole mass resting on the first clay, slid down for some yards, rolling tons

takes its rise to the south of the Tor, from beneath the bed of the river, so that the gigantic Tor, with its connecting crags, is included between the extreme points of these cliffs as if disrupted and torn from between them. The Long Tor, or the most southern of the cliffs already described, is a bold off-shoot of Masson, extending eastward into the open space left by the submergence of the rocks at this point. Its southern face is remarkably steep, but everywhere covered with a rich mould, and in some places to a great depth, thus affording a good soil for nurturing the profuse vegetation which grows most luxuriantly upon it. This part is called the "Heights of Abraham," from the supposed resemblance

it has to those near Quebec.

Masson, which assumes a circular form towards the top, throws off another immense limb or ridge to the south, which gradually narrowing and descending in a gentle sweep till it reaches the valley leading to Bonsall, diverges eastward, and becomes extremely narrow and steep on both sides at the back of Cromford. It there crosses the road, enters the Willersley grounds, forming the magnificent crags in front of the house, and suddenly terminates, before reaching Cromford chapel, just behind the Mills. This limb forms a half circle, including the first series of rocks within it. This embraces about one half the Dale, which assuming, at its commencement under the Heights of Abraham, the appearance of a vast amphitheatre, with its fine sweep and salient points at intervals throughout its course, contrasted with the stupendous rocks opposite, with their bold faces and angular projections, the river flowing between all, so well wooded, has a diversity, beauty, and sublimity of character, nowhere to be met with or equalled except in Switzerland, to which it is compared by travellers who have had the opportunity and privilege of seeing both. Hence it has been justly styled a "Switzerland in miniature." Before quitting this subject, it is necessary to describe the intervening portions of this half, in order to complete its character.

The Dale opens considerably on reaching the Bath from the north, and is far less steep and bold about the middle. And, on examination, it is quite evident that a slip of the whole centre has taken place, precipitating vast masses from

of broken fragments into the road, which had nearly been fatal to some travellers. This mass has since been blasted and cut away so as to make it perfectly secure in future. the heights above, and presenting to the eye one complete mass of ruin, on passing up the enchanting wood at the back of the Old Bath. A vast cliff bounds this wood, running in a slanting direction upwards, and forming at the top those peculiar and singular rocks called "romantic," just behind which they are lost, but are again traceable on passing the rude hamlet called the Upper Wood, and bound the lane leading down to the Toll-Bar, not far from the Cotton Mill, where a vast mass is disclosed, partly cut away for the road. This slip is doubtless contemporaneous with the heaving up and production of the opposite rocks, which were the original supports of these upper masses, now prostrate and commingled in one fearful ruin. The limestone having intermediate beds of clay, always moist, when forced into an inclined position, the instant these supports, or "great dog shores" (if we may use the phrase), were struck away, all the upper measures would slide down into the open space left by the upheaving and retirment of the rocks. This supposition is considerably strengthened by the appearance of the slip which advances into the Dale answerable to the curve of the rocks, forming its flatter portions; and giving birth to the stupendous rocks above, and also to the Cumberland Cavern, with its long flat passages, arches, &c., which will be noticed in due time.

FORMATION OF THE TUFA.

The event above noticed, whenever it did occur, doubtless laid open the warm springs which supply the Old and New Bath, and which rose to day considerably above their present apparent point of emergence, and running and spreading irregularly over this ruinous part, their very warmth nourishing and rapidly forcing forward a wild and luxuriant vegetation of mosses, ferns, lichens, alder trees, &c. (the stems and leaves of which exist in abundance), the water being charged with an excess of lime and carbonic acid gas obtained by infiltration through the upper beds, encrusted and enchained this incipient vegetation by the deposition of their calcareous matter. This effect is the consequence of the escape of the excess of carbonic acid gas on exposure to day, and the rapid evaporation of the hot water; as this process goes on, the minute particles of lime contained in it are precipitated, and give rise to that vast mass of tufa which forms the beautiful terrace on which the two principal inns

stand; both of these are considerably below the original source of the springs. Good sections of this tufa are seen on the several roads leading to these houses.* As this has accumulated by such slow and inappreciable means, it shows that these depositions must have been going on undisturbed for ages, and affords a strong proof of the simultaneous production of this fault or slip with the upheaving of the rocks. That in fact they had one common origin. It would also appear most consistent with truth to suppose, that the slip in the northern curve or half portion, is of the same age with that series of rocks.

GENERAL REMARKS.

We have in the causes which excavated this beautiful vale and elevated its mountain masses, a remarkable instance of the wisdom and goodness of God to his fallen creatures. These causes clearly indicate His just displeasure at man's fearful and daring rebellion. As Milton forcibly expresses it—

"Earth from her centre heaved;"

all nature seemed convulsed, participating in an event pregnant with such vast consequences to our world; yet He graciously over-ruled these, making them subservient to His creatures' benefit and pleasure, and answerable in all respects to its strangely altered condition. One consequence is obvious, for while the lofty mountain peaks arrest the clouds in their career, and oblige them to deposit their rich and fructifying stores to nourish vegetation on the earth, they serve also to beautify and adorn the face of the world, furnishing that endless variety of ever-varying and beautiful scenery to meet the constant and increasing desires of the human mind for novelty and incessant change: thus making earth, while man tenants it, in some measure commensurate to his vast capacities, and at the same time exhibiting the most indubitable proofs of the power, wisdom, and goodness of God! But this is a small part of the benefit resulting from these

^{*} The fertility of the soil above tufa is astonishing. In Italy, as well as Matlock, it more particularly favours the growth of vines and creeping plants, especially where water can be conveyed to it: hence the great demand for tufa for rock-work in gardens, ornamental pools, and reservoirs, &c. Many tons of it are annually sent out of Derbyshire. The tufa here varies from one foot to twenty in depth, according to the acclivities over which the water ran, and the direction it took.

causes. The immense stores laid up within the earth's crust, which form the chief wealth of nations, and administer every moment to man's comfort and wants-from the coal that warms him and sparkles on his hearth, to those things that ornament his dwelling and are made subservient in numberless ways to his advantage-never could have been made available to his purpose but for these. Also the elevated escarpments of mountains, drinking in the rain of heaven, furnish the source of springs-from hence brooks and streams, and ultimately the noble river, flowing throughout the provinces of an empire, nourishing and enriching the soil rendering its most distant parts accessible to the interior, as well as to the world; giving facilities in connexion with Railroads to commerce and the intercourse of nations, and tending to bind man in one common link of brotherhood. Nor must we overlook the fact, that owing to these causes, too, man in every locality, by digging, may obtain water, which is absolutely essential to his present existence. Thus these apparently untoward events bring to the surface the riches of a world, laying open its hidden stores to man, and furnishing incessant employment to its ever increasing population. Thus the Creator of all things unites the "dulce" with the "utile" -the ornamental with the useful, and all the necessary material of our being, in order to remind us, in our investigations of nature, and during every stage of our present existence, of his infinite goodness and wisdom, so evidently and impressively exhibited, in all those beautiful adaptations of the external world to our happiness and well-being.

THE CLIMATE

of Matlock Bath is generally admitted to be most salubrious and healthy. The currents down its stream, perpetually clearing the valley, keep the air pure; while, on the other hand, the Bath being deeply embosomed amongst the hills on the southern side chiefly of the Heights of Abraham, and screened effectually by them, the High Tor and Riber Hill from the north and east, and catching every gleam of sunshine from the south, it enjoys a climate equal to many places in more southern latitudes. In the winter this is experienced to a considerable extent; hence it has been, and is still recommended for consumptive patients and persons of extremely delicate constitutions; while the healthy and robust may scale the Heights at any moment, and inhale the

keen, invigorating, and bracing air of a more northern sky; or on choosing to reside in one of its habitations situated on the more elevated and exposed points, may possess a climate of a considerably lower temperature.

A sail on its beautiful waters in the heat of summer, to enjoy the fresh breeze constantly moving with more or less force along the course of its stream, when perhaps not a leaf stirs in the upper parts of the Dale, is another source of healthy recreation to the more active visitors of Matlock, and consequently it has been much resorted to of late years. And were a spirit of enterprise to awake, and more private lodging houses to be built, doubtless Matlock Bath would become at all seasons a favourite place of public resort, from the numerous natural advantages it possesses.*

A WINTER SCENE.

In order to show the extraordinary effect of our hot springs on the temperature of the valley, as well as the peculiar beauty of a snow scene in Matlock Bath, the author will attempt to give a description of what he witnessed in January, 1843. Such a scene in Matlock is of the most lovely and brilliant description imaginable, especially if it occur about the full moon, and be seen on one of her clear and cloudless nights. Such a night was the 15th of January, 1843. It had all the characters about it of a Swiss or Lapland one, but more subdued and beautiful.

A storm of rare occurrence in this climate had set in on the Thursday night previous, thunder, lightning, hail, sleet, and snow in succession, with tremendous gusts of wind.

Hard frosts succeeded, and on the Saturday night another

^{*} A medical gentleman, who resided some years in Matlock, made the following remarks on its climate:—"From the position of this mountain, (the Heights of Abraham) great shelter is afforded, and which does most essentially contribute to the well-known salubrity and healthiness of Matlock—and, considering the limited number of its inhabitants, there may not, in all probability, be found so remarkable an instance of longevity as the following fact: that of six persons, inhabitants of Matlock Bath, living within two or three hundred yards of each other, in the year 1817, their united ages amounted to five hundred years." And the eloquent Author of the Peak Scenery makes the following remarks—"The cold winds of the north and east spend their violence on the huge eminences that environ Matlock Bath, and but rarely sweep through the valley: hence it is that, during the colder parts of the year, the air is comparatively mild, and admirably adapted for invalids. And in this place, even winter is shorn of its terrors; the very frosts are embued with an exhilarating temperament."

snow storm, with furious winds drifting it up to a great height in sheltered positions, so much so that many cottages. as Thompson elegantly phrases it, were "smoothed up with snow," and a broad zone was formed right across the lower southern limb of Masson, along the wood, and over the heights of Abraham. Here it lay in a measure undisturbed, and on the following day (Sunday) it appeared like a magnificent glacier. The violence of the wind having shaken it from the firs crowning the higher points, and the heat of the sheltered valley (from the number of its hot springs) thawing it chiefly from the lower region, served to bring out in boldest relief this snowy girdle. The pines, which compose the greater portion of the wood, were fantastically feathered, and glittered in the sunbeam, while others more isolated stood out from their compeers like huge cones, or pyramids of matted silver, being so filled in and shrouded with snow. These had a sublime effect. In fact, the whole scene of rock and crag, and mountain side, looked most superb. But when the moon rose to rule the night, the picture was exceedingly grand and soul-subduing. There was such a peculiar celestial hue and quiet beauty reflected back to the cloudless heavens from the myriads of snow crystals, that the noble hill appeared to swell out far beyond its usual proportions, and these are by no means insignificant; for at this part of the valley, Masson leaps up at a high angle, throwing off a bold ridge to the eastward right across it so steep, that every part of its massive outline is distinctly visible to the height of nearly a thousand feet when close on its base. Imagine, then, the bold and towering hill with its pine plantations, enclosures, and swelling eminences, covered with a mantle of such virgin purity. snow-clad and feathered pines forming the embroidered portion of the mantle, interlaced with darker stripes of crag and wood dotted on the lower margin, with the cottages and terraces of the Bath, and all lit up by the full moon and spangled heavens, and you have before you an embroidered garment of dazzling whiteness, a scene of rarest beauty and grandeur. Such a scene, and the calm that pervaded it, told with a thrilling sweetness on the mind. I could have watched it for hours, but, alas! it was too beautiful to last; it soon vanished into thin air, leaving not a trace behind.

THE WATERS,

which originally obtained for this retreat the distinction of a watering place, are slightly tepid as they issue from the springs, being about 68° Fahrenheit, and therefore extremely agreeable at all seasons for bathing. Their chemical properties are very different to those of Buxton, being almost pure, (see analysis) but they contain more "free carbonic acid" than perhaps any other water in this kingdom, and to which is ascribed by some their active medicinal properties.* The temperature is 14 degrees lower than the Buxton. This is considered to be owing to the escape of the additional caloric before they emerge to the light, or by mixing with a stream of cold water which exists somewhere near the source of the springs. In a publication of this kind it would be quite out of place to give an elaborate disquisition on the properties and origin of hot springs, about which many theories have been started and as often refuted, or at least shown to be unsatisfactory. And no wonder if poor limited humanity is at fault on subjects so abstruse and so remote from actual observation, and which is clearly intimated in the following passage, derived from a source infinitely higher than the creature can lay claim to: - "Hast thou entered into the springs of the sea, or hast thou walked in the search of the depth?" But it may be observed, that amongst the ever-varying opinions of mankind, which are always experiencing the most extraordinary mutations as the light of science increases in brilliancy and power, so that it is difficult to say at times what is true and what is false; RECENT investigations tend strongly to show that all hot springs have one common origin, from the boiling and beautiful Geysers of Iceland, to those of "San Phillippo," Bath, Buxton, or Matlock, which latter are of a much lower temperature than the Geysers, and contain calcareous matter in solution, instead of silicious. That origin is supposed to be volcanic! The quantities of steam generated by water percolating through the earth's erust, by cracks and fissures, upon the intensely heated masses of boiling lava, seated deeply within the earth, are thrown up again with immense force, and condensed by coming in contact with the streams of water near the surface, producing different degrees of heat at different points where

Dr. Armstrong stated these waters to be similar in their properties and effects to the Bristol.—Pilkington, vol. i. p. 228.

the springs come to day. And this difference of temperature depends on the quantity of cold water mixing with, and condensing the steam, and also proportionally to the depth at which the actual contact takes place from the outlet. And here, it appears, the celebrated Dr. Darwin's views on this subject were decidedly in advance of the general opinions which obtained in his own day, as the following passage, in his "Loves of the Plants," sufficiently shows :-

> "Where as proud Masson rises rude and bleak, And with mis-shapen turrets crests the Peak, Old Matlock gapes, with marble jaws beneath, And o'er scar'd Derwent bends his flinty teeth; Deep in wide caves below the dangerous soil Blue sulphurs flame, imprisoned waters boil: Impetuous streams in spiral columns rise Through rifted rocks, impatient for the skies: Or o'er bright seas of bubbling lavas blow, As heave and toss the billowy fires below; Condens'd on high, in wandering rills they glide, From Masson's dome, and burst his sparry side; Round his grey towers, and down his fringed walls, From cliff to cliff the liquid treasure falls; In beds of stalactites, bright ores among, O'er corals, shells, and crystals, winds along; Crusts the green mosses and the tangled wood, And sparkling plunges to its parent flood."

Darwin's Loves of the Plants.

These waters are said to be most efficacious in all bilious complaints, rheumatism and its consequent debility, the first stages of consumption, gout, and in all cases of debility arising from relaxation of the muscular fibres.

Dr. Granville "considers Matlock water drank freely as a common beverage through the day, to be likely to prove highly beneficial in dyspeptic and nephritic affections.

"Long experience," observed a gentleman, for some years resident at the Bath, "assigns to them highly restorative, strengthening, and curative powers, especially in pulmonary cases, and nervous disorders. Ancient and modern practice alike direct the use of hot baths as the most powerful agent in the preservation of health, in the cure of rheumatism, and in the greater proportion of inflammatory, acute, and chronic disor-ders. Almost all nations, from the remotest antiquity, have had their warm baths; and in the northern regions, persons immediately from the hot bath plunge into snow, thus proving the power acquired by warm bathing in resisting cold, and the vicissitudes of temperature. The ærial combination with the water of Matlock has been little noticed, and to this quality may be assigned their active and healing powers; they should be taken at the fountain."

ANALYSIS OF THE WATERS.

Sir Charles Scudamore, M.D., makes the following statement respecting these waters:-

Temperature, 68 deg.,—specific gravity, 1.003.

Free Carbonic Acid.

Muriates and Magnesia, Lime, and Soda.

Sulphates of Magnesia, Lime, and Soda.

In very minute quantities not yet ascertained.

From Turner's Elements of Chemistry.

Dr. Thompson, in his Materia Medica, classes this water with the calcareous, and considers it almost pure. The hot springs flow out at an elevation of about a hundred feet above the river; but these sources are now hidden, and the water is conveyed in pipes and covered channels into the Baths and Petrifying Wells. One of the streams is seen flowing from a field into the road, under which it passes opposite Smedley's Spar shop, and another forms a beautiful little waterfall, after passing through the Old Bath stable-yard, by flowing over the rough tufa margin behind the stables.

EARLY HISTORY.

We have no authentic account whatever respecting the exact time when the changes already briefly glanced at first commenced. When man began to share with the tenants of the grove and rock a portion of the ground, to have his ears gratefully saluted with their morning and evening carol; inhale the fragrance from the thousand shrubs and flowers, and behold from his own dwelling its native wonders.

How the medicinal properties of the waters came to be discovered is equally unknown, and quite as unimportant to the general inquirer, but it is probable that the attention of some party may have been called to them, and curiosity excited by accidentally observing the clouds of steam which would arise from the course as well as the exit of the springs, particularly during the winter months, when the temperature of the atmosphere is considerably lower than this water. These might appear, on a frosty morning, somewhat like a boiling caldron seated in the cavity of the rock, from whence it flows; and hence persons might be induced to try its virtues, for various reasons, and by this means its healing properties become known. Be this as it may, its rise can only be dated from about the year 1698. The name originated from the village of Matlock, (which is two miles distant, originally called "Meslack"), and the word Bath appended to distinguish it; and very appropriately to point out its

character as a Bathing-place. But it is more than probable that Mesterford or Metesford, which was the head of the Manor in the time of the Conqueror, and from which "Matlock" is derived, was at Matlock Bridge, as there is now no question of a ford having once existed there. All the bridges in the neighbourhood are built at shallows, or ancient crossings; and from the fact of some old British remains being found recently in the railway cuttings near the bridge, it would seem to remove all doubt of this being the true locality of the ancient Metesford.* In Doomsday-book, Matlock is represented as a hamlet of this Metesford, which was part of the demesne of the crown. It appears to have been given afterwards to William de Ferrers, Earl of Derby, who had a charter of free warren granted to him for his demesne lands here. On the attainder of his son Robert de Ferrers, for espousing the cause of Simon de Montford, Earl of Leicester, Matlock, which was then become a manor, reverted to the crown. It was afterwards granted by Edward the First to Edmund, Earl of Lancaster, and continued part of the possessions belonging to this earldom until the fourth of Charles the First, when it was granted by that monarch to Edward Ditchfield and others, who in the following year sold it to the Copyholders of the Manor of Matlock, and it is now divided into several small shares.

But to return to Matlock Bath, the immediate subject of consideration, it appears that a temporary wooden structure, lined with lead, was reared over or near by the newly discovered spring about the time stated. This original structure was removed and replaced by a more substantial building by the Rev. Mr. Fearn of Matlock, and Mr. Haywood of Cromford, and put into the hands of George Wragg, who, to confirm his title, took a lease from the lords of the manor for 99 years (some say 999), paying them a fine of £150. and the yearly rent of sixpence each. He then built a few small rooms adjoining the Bath, poor and wretched enough, for the accommodation of the visitors. The Villa most probably was built at this time, and called the "Old Bath

^{*}Nestes, or Nestus, or as now called, "Nester-side," is the name originally given to the Heights of Abraham, which seems to confirm the above statements, and particularly so, as the Rutland Cavern is the Original Nester Mine, and is still held under that title. At the bottom of these Heights on this side of the High Tor, is supposed to have existed a ford for the Miners to cross the river; hence the name of Metesford or Netsford.

House," and is now kept as a Board and Lodging House by Mrs. Broadfoot. We give a sketch of it.



However, the property soon passed into other hands more capable of improving it—the Messrs. Smith and Pennel, of Nottingham, who purchased the lease and property for £1000. of Wragg, and immediately erected two commodious buildings connected with the Baths, with stables and other conveniences.—They also made a coach road by the river side from Cromford, and improved the horse-way from Matlock bridge.



From an inscription on a square stone, still sufficiently legible on the oldest part of the front of the Old Bath, it appears these improvements took place 1734. andin 1738

the whole property came into the possession of the daughter and son-in-law of Mr. Pennel (and her husband), who previously to his death had become sole proprietor of the estate. The original building was considerably added to from time to time as the number of visitors increased, till it had attained its present magnitude. The new and excellent stables were the last great improvement on the Old Bath estate, which is now the joint property of several individuals.

While these alterations were being effected at the Old Bath, a second spring was discovered within the distance of a quarter of a mile to the south, which gave birth to the



New Bath. and thus a second spacious and suitable building was reared for the accommodation of the numerously increasing visitors. Still later another

spring was discovered to the eastward, in the lower part of the Dale, which gave rise to a third and very commodious lodging house, now the Museum Parade, but which did not answer the expectations of the parties speculating, and in consequence, a few years afterwards, was sold in separate lots. This has since been much improved and added to, and forms what is now called the Museum Parade. The Spring and Bath once connected with it are still in existence under the title of the Fountain Gardens, much beautified by the present proprietor, and constantly used by parties frequenting the hotels, and others occupying the private lodging houses.

ORIGINAL STATE OF DERBYSHIRE ROADS.

During the greater part of this period the roads to Matlock, and indeed throughout the Peak in general, were wretched in the extreme. The difficulties of a Derbyshire road became proverbial. In the lower parts of the valleys, in wet weather, the carriages might sink to the axles; and the steep and rugged acclivities over which they were obliged to pass, often presented formidable obstacles to the traveller's progress. The celebrated author of "Robinson Crusoe" complained bitterly of the approach to this sweet spot, and of the Derbyshire Roads generally; and it appears Mr. Bray, in his tour, equally complained of them, and very gratuitously states, that no carriage had passed through the Dale prior to the time the first part of the Old Bath was built—a fact that no one is likely to dispute. The only way of access from the North for such vehicles being by way of Bonsall, or Grange Mill, and from the south by way of Wirksworth over Cromford Moor. But shortly after the year 1780 the roads were much improved, and access to all parts of the country much facilitated, by the establishment of daily coaches through Wirksworth, Newhaven, and Buxton, to Manchester, from London and Nottingham. But it was not until the new road was made with much labour, down the course of the stream, through the lovely valley of the Derwent by way of Belper-that Matlock and its attractions were fully thrown open to the world. This important improvement was effected in 1815, since which period Matlock has rapidly improved, and obtained for itself universal fame, no less for its beautiful productions in spar and marble ornaments, than for its natural beauties. Prior to this time, and long after, "Pack horses," as they were called, were universally used throughout Derbyshire as a means of transport, hence it has been found necessary to widen all the old bridges thus used.

The Railway now affords ample communication with all

parts.

CHAPTER IV.

SOUTH AND NORTH ENTRANCE. THE HOTELS, BOARD AND LODGING HOUSES, BATHS, TERRACES, SCENERY, NEW CHURCH AND CHAPEL.

SOUTH ENTRANCE.

THE first object, on entering the Dale from Cromford, which arrests the attention on passing the rocky barrier, is the pretty gate of Willersley Castle, and then the Castle itself

bursts on the view, being built on a bold eminence at the foot of a rugged but well wooded cliff, with its lovely lawns, and groups of cattle and sheep grazing-the river rippling and swelling over its stony bed. Here the road has been made at great expense on the steep side of the narrow ridge which bounds the left and separates the Dale from Cromford. The view in front is remarkably bold and mountainous: the noble peak of Masson is seen raising its lofty head over the windings of the Dale, which is here narrow, finely curved, and profusely wooded. The road takes a westerly direction, then suddenly turns to the North, disclosing at once the splendid rocks which burst upon the view through an opening up the river, exhibiting a beautiful waterfall, foaming over the "weir" and rough bed below it, also the Wild Cat Tor, and Masson Mill. At this point we arrive at the house of the Independent Minister, attached to, and connected with Glenorchy Chapel; on passing which, on the rise of the hill to the left, we come upon Messrs. Mills and Newbold's offices, a group of cottages and the Rutland Arms Inn, and instantly the Mill comes into view to the right. The clatter of its thousand spindles and the tinkling of its bells warning the attendant its hank, or proper quantity, is completed, instantly strike upon the ear.

Close by this, and on the same side, is an extensive paper mill belonging to Mr. Simons, who carries on a considerable trade in that important article—paper of almost every quality being produced in the mill. To the left, and immediately opposite to the mill, is the residence of Charles Clarke, esq. (a magistrate of the county), built on an elevated platform, and commanding a fine view of the south end of the Dale and Willersley grounds-this is strikingly conspicuous by the massive and lofty wall recently built up from the road to give greater space and security to the terrace in front of the house. The grounds connected with this delightful residence are much improved and beautified. It seems nestled on the cliff side. From this we immediately reach the narrow pass at the Toll-Bar, and the first object which strikes the attention is the Post Office, a large square brick building just in front. Upon the left is the King's Head, some shops and lodging houses; between these and the Post Office, at the top of the old road, is seen standing conspicuously the New Bath, which if the traveller means to reach he must take this road. It also leads on to the beauteous green, as it

is called, in front of it, and to Walker's Hotel. But on proceeding to any other part of the Bath, the lower road must be taken. A little beyond this, on passing the Spar shops and cottages to the right and left, and just opposite to the new Church, a good view of the Bath and the Heights of Abraham is obtained, which cannot fail to surprise and delight a stranger, from its magnificence and beauty. The deep ravine, splendid rocks, and river to the right, heighten the interest of this view considerably. As we proceed a little further, the rough Tufa Bank of the Old Bath Terrace, lately much dressed and smoothed off by the busy hand of the gardener, bounds the road on the left; above which the Old Bath Hotel stands, a long building of unequal proportions, from its having been added too successively as the number of visitors yearly increased. The road leading to this, and also to the Temple, takes the higher ground to the left of the rude gritstone obelisk.* But to the Museum Parade, Hodgkinson's Hotel, and other parts of Matlock, the lower road must be taken.

NORTH ENTRANCE.

"Here Rocks on Rocks, on forests, forests rise,
Spurn the low earth and mingle with the Skies;—
Great Nature, slumbering by fair Derwent's stream,
Conceived these Giant Mountains in a dream."

Peak Mountains, by J. Montgomery.

"The romantic and sublimely picturesque scenery of Matlock Dale," observes the writer of the beauties of England and Wales, "is viewed to most advantage when approached from the bridge near its northern extremity, as its beauties there succeed each other in a gradation which renders their grandeur and effect more impressive." This is certainly true, and we cannot suffer another edition to go to press without attempting to point out some of the interesting objects which meet the eye of the stranger on entering Matlock from this point.

The stranger, on leaving Darley Dale, and making his way up the narrow dell, and even over Matlock bridge, can have no conception of the romantic and magnificent scenery about to burst upon his sight in a few more minutes. The bold

^{*} On cutting the Tufa Bank to make the present road, the workmen found the head and immense antlers of a Moose Deer, which were sent to the British Museum; and in building the stables at the New Bath the entire Skeleton of this animal was found.

knoll and precipitous rock, on the verge of which stands Matlock Church, may fail to rivet his attention till approaching the Boat House, when the Horse Tor, a lofty angular rock, is disclosed on the left of the road, and between which and the cliff on the right is seen, "like Ossa upon Pelion," the bold and wavy outline of Masson side, towering upwards to the top of the Heights of Abraham, crowned with dark pines. From hence every view is of a bolder description till reaching the Toll-bar, when the High Tor is seen in all his proud Majesty. To describe this view would be as difficult as it has been found to sketch it, as every exhibition of the artist's talent has failed in some one point or other to do it full justice. The lofty Rock (about 400 feet in height), seems to start up from the bed of the river, here a turbulent stream, dashing over the rude blocks that impede its progress-giving an air of still greater interest to this monarch of the Dale, which, with the exception of a small intermediate portion, exhibits one unbroken perpendicular face from the top to the bottom. Here let the reader imagine this lofty Rock with its mighty adjuncts and river on one side of him, and the craggy and waved outline of Masson towering above him on the other, with abundance of wood giving richness to the scene, and he may form some idea of this part of the Dale. But as we have already spoken of this part in our geological remarks, and on the High Tor itself, we shall now simply point out the gentlemen's seats and other objects as they present themselves in succession.

We may as well observe that the first house we come to on passing the Boat House (a small Inn at the entrance) is Mrs. Brinsley's, the Matlock carrier alternately to Sheffield and Derby, and who has charge of the ferry leading to Matlock village close by. Just beyond this a road leads up the cliff to Rock Ville and Cliff House. The former was built by the late Edward Payne, esq., and is now the property of W. Greaves, esq. It is in the Swiss style, and in excellent keeping with the scenery.—The latter is an old house which may be seen at the top of the Cliff above, and belonging to Miss Leacroft. This commands some magnificent views.* On proceeding into the Dale, we come to, in succession, Mr. Chinnery's Cottages, then Dale Cottage, then a large house by the toll-bar, now the residence of — Darwin, esq.,

^{*} A most interesting walk by this house leads to the wood on the Heights, and from thence into the zigzag, and so down into Matlock Bath.

solicitor; several other houses occur here not in the best style. Beyond, in a bold and singular position, darkly shaded with trees, is seen Tor Cottage, the residence of H. Collingwood, esq. This was the first Cottage in this style built in the Dale. Immediately opposite the High Tor are Neal's and Robinson's Lodging Houses. Opposite is Mr. Stevenson's Dutch Lead Works, recently erected on the old Side Mine Hillock, now closed up, and close by the High Tor Grotto.

Nothing of the Bath is seen till proceeding further, and turning a bold angle where the road runs to the westward, then it comes into view beautifully embosomed at the foot of the Heights, amongst the richest foliage. Just beyond this angle, a little above, the Parsonage House is built for the Incumbent of the New Church. The first Hotel reached coming from the North is Hodgkinson's, on the Museum Parade, and beyond, in an elevated position, may be seen the Old Bath Hotel, &c.

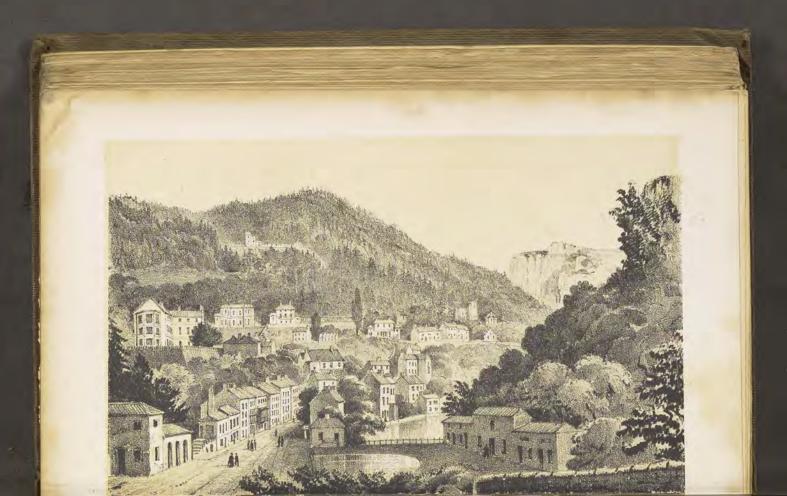


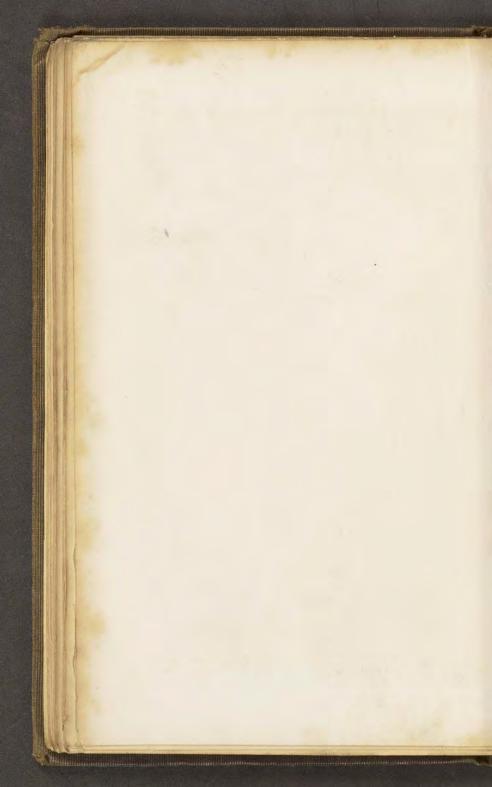
OLD BATH HOTEL-ITS ORIGIN, ETC.

WITH the exception of the Villa, this is the oldest dwelling-house of any kind in Matlock Bath. It appears most pro-

bable that, on the discovery of the first Spring, a Bath, and a Fountain for the convenience of visitors to take the waters, with a few incommodious rooms, for the use chiefly of the attendants, were erected on this site in the first instance; while the Villa, once called the Old Bath house (as already mentioned, page 40-41), was built on one of the more level plots of ground in the Dale, about 300 yards to the North, for the better accommodation of the visitors. But as these rapidly increased from year to year, a wider extension of the plan was required-hence the South end of the Old Bath was built, and more convenient offices attached; after this a great portion of the North end was also added. This was done when the property came into the hands of Smith and Pennel, of Nottingham, at the time they made the first carriage road into the Dale from the South, and improved the Bridleway from the North to the Villa and Bath, which then led up through the Key Pasture wood, covered at this time with little else than gorse bushes. Thirty-five years after this, when the property came into the possession of Mr. Stephen Egerton, the son-in-law of Mr. Pennel, the Baths were rebuilt on a scale answerable to the increase of the company. Over these the Liverpool Gallery Rooms were built, so called because the Baths were chiefly resorted to and supported at this period by Liverpool company. This fact is self-evident from the date (already alluded to in the history of Matlock), and the name of Egerton still existing is sufficiently legible, although rudely executed, on a square stone over one of the windows in the front. Soon after this we must date the existence of the splendid drawing-room, with other additional rooms and stables. About a century has now elapsed since all these improvements were effected. Another most important addition was made by some of the present proprietors, in 1803-namely, the large dining-room; a billiard-room, on the site of some of the old stables and coach-houses; and the present excellent stables built in lieu of the old, lower down, out of the way of the house.

The beautiful Terrace, the grace and ornament of the house, was laid out and finished after the alteration of the road through the Bath in 1820. Previous to this, it went close by the house inside, or between the two elm trees still standing on the Terrace. Mr. Greaves, the present spirited Landlord, has very much enlarged and improved this. The new Terrace or promenade walk commands some of the





finest views of the Bath. The Fountain adds greatly to its

beauty.

It may appear to some unimportant, and perhaps trifling, to dwell so much on this house, in giving such minute details respecting its gradual increase in magnitude; but it must be remembered that on its site the first Spring was discovered, to which circumstance Matlock Bath owes its existence. And it is a quality of the human mind to invest every thing that is original and antique, with a deep and peculiar interest, because it is not only led to contemplate the hidden causes which gave birth to it, but also to the mighty series of events which follow, involving, it may be,

the interests and well-being of thousands.

By these means the secluded Dale becomes accessible to the world. Here the Prince and the Peer may recreate awhile from the cares and deep anxieties of State, enjoy the quiet seclusion and unsophisticated pleasures of simple and artless life, inhale the pure and invigorating air of the mountain top, and revel with delight ("incog.) amongst the deep recesses of the vale, perfumed by many a native flower, and adorned with nature's ample and loveliest drapery. Here, too, the man of business may forget for awhile those pressing anxieties that crowd upon the mind in his pursuits, and feel a degree of elevation and expansive benevolence in contemplating these stupendous Works of God, which relieve, while they minister a healing balm to the heart. The magnificence and beauty of the creation have a natural tendency to soften the heart; and, when rightly viewed, lead us to to exclaim, "How manifold are thy works, O Lord, in wisdom hast thou made them all."

Prior to the discovery of the Springs, this fine glen it appears was scarcely known, as if barred from the world by its mountain fastnesses, and yet situated in the very midst of the teeming population of England; whose sons sped away annually to the Alps, the Pyrenees, and the Abruzzi, for the sublime and beautiful, when there existed scenery at their very doors, of which they were ignorant, that has since commanded the admiration of a Byron, a Scott, and a Chalmers, and drawn forth a meed of praise not only from the wealthy

and the gay, but even from the foreigner.

OLD BATH TERRACE AND SCENERY.

THE view from the Terrace is beautiful, and from its eleva-

tion above the Bath generally, visitors have the advantage of overlooking and enjoying the scenery without being much observed, though close by the high road. From the iron rails, looking to the north-east, just above the stable yard, is a view of unparalleled grandeur—the noble pine-crowned Heights of Abraham, rising majestically to a great elevation in front and to the left, with the clean-looking white-washed cottages, shops, lodging-houses, and temple on its elegant terrace, reposing at the foot—the bold luxuriantly-wooded rocks and lovers' walks to the right—the rugged and frowning Tor peering from between—the river flowing gently amongst them—altogether present an assemblage of bold and beautiful features, rarely, if any where to be met with, compressed into the same space; hence this view is eagerly sketched by every comer who can handle a pencil.

This view is full of sublimity, and its effect transcendant on the mind, when lit up by the moon, riding in her majesty and loveliness, shedding her soft and mellowed light on the scene—the din of busy spirit-stirring man, and the tenants of the grove having sunk to rest—the stillness which pervades it, and the apparent increase in magnitude of the noble objects which compose the picture—the stream silvered by the moonbeam, which reflects back the image of the orb of night a thousand fold, from the ripple of its waters—all clothed with Nature's ample foliage, deeply enhance the intensity of the interest felt by a stranger on first beholding it.*

But to return to the house, which we have not yet fully described. Its capacity is such that a hundred has often sat down to the public table, and upon any emergency nearly a hundred beds can be made up. The drawing-room is handsome and spacious, with a carved ceiling and highly ornamented cornice. Here the visitors held their evening assemblies, which occurred almost every night. It then was set off with great brilliancy, and filled, as the phrase is, with "beauty and fashion," the neighbouring gentry mingling in the exhilirating, but too often giddy and mazy dance.† The

About half way down the hill below the rails is a very fine Echo.
 + This room is 51½ feet long, 22 wide, and 15½ high.

Here Lord Byron, in his early youth (then a frequent visitor at the Bath) met with a severe check, which may have had an influence on his future destinies. His romantic attachment to Miss Chaworth is well known. On the present occasion, the young heiress of Annesley having had for her partner (as often happens at Matlock) some person with whom she was wholly unacquainted, on her resuming her seat, Byron

dining-room is large and admirably adapted for the purposes intended; that of accommodating a large party at dinner without crowding or confusion. The private rooms are numerous and comfortable: the beds excellent, and the traveller will find every attention paid to his comfort and wants. Since the present Landlord entered upon it, several important improvements and additions have been made in the interior of the house, answerable to the elegances, wants, and comforts of the present period. A spacious tepid bath, and other warm and shower baths, are included within this establishment; also hot and shower baths of any temperature required.



THE NEW BATH

Is most pleasantly situated on the extreme South end of the Tufa Terrace. It owed its existence to the second hot spring, which was discovered some years after that of the Old Bath, hence the name of Old and New, applied respectively to

said to her pettishly, "I hope you like your friend?" The words were scarcely out of his lips when he was accosted by an ungainly-looking Scotch lady, who rather boisterously claimed him as "cousin," and was putting his pride to the torture with her vulgarity, when he heard the voice of his fair companion retorting archly in his ear, "I hope you like your friend?"

each, designating their order of succession. This house, like the Old Bath, had a small beginning, and was gradually extended as time and circumstances required. The building forms three sides of a quadrangle. The North wing is the last erected, in which there are some excellent and spacious sitting-rooms, the one with the bow window, looking on the green, is a good room, and equally pleasant. Underneath this wing is the hot or tepid Bath, very commodious and convenient for bathers. The late Mr. Saxton, who possessed this house for upwards of fifty years, has been succeeded by his son, Mr. George Saxton, who, with the assistance of his sisters, pays every possible attention to the wants and comforts of the company, and no doubt will well sustain its ancient reputation. Here the clergy of the surrounding districts hold their half-yearly meetings; and the dining-room, which is spacious, is freely granted upon these, and other occasional meetings, for their accommodation. Behind the house on passing to the garden, is the Fountain, with a glass tumbler always ready for the visitor to quaff a bumper of the limpid stream, as it issues pure and unadulterated from its marble bed.

The garden is beautiful, and kept in the neatest possible order. This occupies the entire space between Walker's Hotel and the house. Here the visitor may regale himself among shrubs and flowers, or sit and watch the elegant motions of the golden fish, which sport in great numbers in a circular pool, made on purpose for these delicate and beautiful species of the finny tribes. They are so tame, being constantly accustomed to numerous visitors, many of whom take a delight in feeding them, that they may be said to come in shoals from out of their hiding places in the Tufa bottom or sides, or from under the broad leaf of the water lily, the moment any one approaches the margin of the pool. The constant supply of hot water into this basin admirably preserves these creatures. But the pride and glory of the garden is its lime tree, occupying nearly the centre.* is beautiful and magnificent when in full leaf, and under its ample shade the visitor may take shelter from the overpowering heat of the noonday sun, and coolly enjoy the sweet scenery and fragrant garden, which spreads out before him Here the mind is furnished with abundant matter for discursive flights as far as India, shall we say, and the

^{*} This noble tree is considered to be about 158 year old.

"coral strands" of that vast empire, if so disposed. Its "Banian" tree, of gigantic and almost inconceivable size, cannot fail to cross his mind as he beholds the noble branches of this tree propped up in many places, comparable to the natural stems of the Banian, lest the weight on these extended natural levers should bear them down, and sever them from the parent trunk. Or he may sip rills of pleasure nearer home, from the wild exuberance of nature, tempting his investigation on every hand. The green mead, studded or encircled with the daisy—the lovely flowers and shrubs—the lofty forest tree-the towering cragg-the lowing of the herd on the mountain side-the hum of the bee as it glides from flower to flower extracting the nectar-or groups of human kind, from the four quarters of the globe, descried on the top of the opposite rocks, or parading in front of the green, and around-all engaged in the pursuit of health and pleasure, and probably deeply affected in a thousand ways by these numberless objects; all such sounds and "living pictures" speak most impressively to the observant and cultivated mind, and furnish endless sources of amusement and rational pleasure, supplying some of the loftiest conceptions of the great Creator's munificence and love.

Before quitting the ample shade of this noble tree we would just point out to the stranger the beautiful tracery on its bark, fissured in numberless ways, like the fretted work of a rich gothic window. This occurs particularly on the western side of the trunk, and is an indication of continued vigour and enlargement, by the breaking up of the outer bark to admit of the succeeding new layer within it. Its dimensions are more than fourteen feet round the trunk, and the extended boughs cover an area of nearly one hundred

yards in circumference.

On proceeding again to the Green, the view to the South is commanding, and embraces some fine scenery. To the left is the rocky ivy-clad barrier, cut off suddenly a little further on, by a cleft or fault. In front, rising over the houses, is the "Wild Cat Tor," emerging from the thick woods of Willersley, like an old dilapidated tower, isolated from its kindred pile by the demolition of ages. To the right, the winding dale, bounded by the extended limb of Masson, called Harp Edge, covered with plantations and enclosures; over all, majestically towering in the distance; Cromford Moor, the black and frowning Cliff of Stonnis, and

Barrel Edge, cresting the whole extreme boundary, and just beneath but unseen, is heard the din of the waterfall, throwing, by its murmurs, a dash of the romantic into the picture. It is impossible to stand unmoved and unimpressed in beholding such exhibitions of nature's handywork; and it is just such combinations of beauty and sublimity which elevate the character of the scenery of Matlock above that of most other places.

FOUNTAIN GARDENS AND ALCOVE.

THESE Baths, or Fountain Gardens, we shall notice here simply for the sake of keeping all the Bathing-places together, although there is no house of the "public kind," connected with them. These obtained the appellation of "Fountain Gardens," from the tepid water flowing up into and over the side of a plain neat circular vase, placed on a pillar, both made of the grey Hopton limestone, admirably adapted from its durability for such a purpose. This stands immediately in front of the Alcove, a structure in the Grecian style beautifully situated amongst fragrant bowers



and commanding a good view of the high road and Station, so that a party may sit quite retired, and observe every thing that passes. These gardens, kept in excellent order, are situated to the north of the Bath, and entered from the road by a flight of gritstone steps. The way to "Heights" by the Zigzag leads through them, and are

in the occupation of Mr. Vallance.

THE TEMPLE HOTEL

was built subsequently to the Villa and Old Bath, for a considerable time it was the property of Mr. Maynard, one of

the largest proprietors of the Old Bath, and was let with it to the same tenant, hence it became like a private lodging house or appendage to the Old Bath, for the comfort and convenience of those visitors who wished to be out of the noise and bustle of a crowded Inn; at a time when the nobility and gentry flocked to such places as Matlock for three or four months in the summer; instead of, as now, taking a tour on the continent, at that time impracticable from the desolating scourge of war; that fearful and bloody struggle, originating in what is termed the French Revolution, which agitated Europe from its centre to its circumference. Then Matlock, as a sweet and quiet retreat, was resorted to by numbers, who annually resided in it from three weeks to as many months; and at such times upwards of eighty usually sat down to the "table d'hote," at the Old Bath. Now, although the visitors to Matlock are far more numerous, that practice is generally given up; the company occupying private rooms, and sometimes forming pic-nic parties, making Matlock a "point d'appui," for a few days or a week, to visit the beautiful scenery and objects of interest

in its immediate neighbourhood.

The temple is beautifully situated, being raised on a series of terraces. The upper one is partly made ground, being built up on one side, and at an elevation above the valley of 150 feet. The view from this, though confined, is exceedingly beautiful-to the left the eye, carried over all the houses in the valley, rests on the splendid line of rocks, covered, capped, and fringed with the most profuse vegetation, repeated and reflected back to the eye with a thousand additional charms from the clear glassy surface of the river, which here is seen flowing smoothly at their base. Nearly in front is the Old Bath, and further on, Walker's Hotel and the New Bath appear, over the winding dale. To the right, Pearson's lodging houses, and the garden with its lovely parterre full of flowers and shrubs which, with the house, bounds the terrace. In the centre of this is an alcove, entwined with the ivy and box, from which a beautiful view is obtained of the river, which is laid open to the eye for a considerable distance, where it turns the angle of the rocks and runs eastward towards Riber Hill. The Temple is now the property, and under the management of Mr. Evans, who of late has much improved and enlarged it for the better accommodation of his visitors.

Walker's Hotel—Is situated at the North end of Saxton's Green, and fronts to the garden already noticed in our remarks on the New Bath. This was originally the post-office, which has been removed some years to Miss Shore's, the large brick building near the toll-bar. Walker's Hotel being on the same Green as the New Bath, possesses, from its position, views of equal grandeur and beauty with some of those already described, which see. It is a nice, clean-looking, well-built house. The interior arrangements are good, affording every needful accommodation and comfort, and the most ready and obliging attention is paid to the wants of the visitors.*

Hodgkinson's Hotel—Is situated on the Museum Parade. It originally formed part of the Great Hotel, mentioned in the historical portion. Some beautiful peeps of the rocks, green, and river, are obtained from the sitting room window. It has the advantage of one of the best cellars in the kingdom (which has been much enlarged), being perfectly cool during the hottest season, and generally of one uniform temperament. It is formed in the natural fissure of the limestone rock, originally worked as a lead mine, which passes on under the garden and temple above, and to a considerable distance beyond. The accommodations at this house are good. The Wine Vaults a little further on belong to the same proprietor.

At all these three places there are good stables and coachhouses, but they are separately classed, not being Posting Houses. Besides these, there are three good and very respectable Public-houses, so that travellers of every class may find suitable and agreeable accommodation at Matlock namely.

Mr. Wray, the King's Head, near the Toll-bar. Mr. Ellis, Devonshire Arms, Museum Parade. Mrs. Tijou, Rutland Arms, near Masson Mill.

At this house, as well as at the New Bath, by an ingenious contrivance—the adoption of a water-wheel, impelled by a stream of the tepid water—the spit is turned with the greatest readiness and regularity, so that a party may enjoy a well-cooked dinner, partly effected by the power of a water-wheel. The hangings of one of the beds is a beautiful specimen of modern tapestry or needlework, wrought by Nuns in a French Convent, and once the property of Colonel Bilby. This was bought by the proprietor, some years since, at a sale in Mansfield.



VIEW OF MATLOCK BATH CHURCH, taken from the Lovers' Walks,

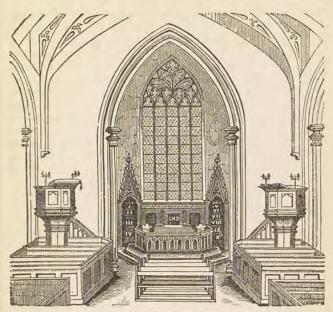
In the erection of this Church an additional feature to the loveliness of the valley has been added, which serves to enhance its interest. The fact of the existence of a Temple dedicated solely to the worship of the SUPREME BEING in the midst of the striking exhibitions of His power, must be delightful to the devout mind; for surely here, if any where, "Nature calls aloud" In the midst of such scenery we should be induced to lift up the heart to the God who made us, and adore Him!

The first stone of this building was laid by the late Venerable Walter Shirley, Archdeacon of Derby, (afterwards Bishop

of Sodar and Man) on the 9th of June, 1841; and its Consecration took place by the Bishop of Hereford (officiating for the Bishop of the Diocese, then very unwell) on the 5th of October, 1842. On both occasions an unusual interest was excited, not so much from the novelty of the circumstance, as from the exceeding beauty and interest of the locality.

The position of the Church is nearly equidistant between the OLD and NEW BATHS, on the same side of the high road, and on a line nearly parallel with the beautiful terrace of the Old Bath Hotel. It is built in the form of a cross, which ranges from about south east to north west, and from the latter part rises a tower, 129 feet high, terminated by an elegant spire. The church commands a magnificent view of the Dale, and is from every point a neat and interesting object. The entire length of the church, including the tower, is 103 feet; in the interior 95 feet. The length from the tower including the communion table is 79 feet, and the general breadth 27 feet 3 inches; the length at the transepts is 53 feet; width of each 21 feet. It is in the old English style of architecture, and fitted up with great simplicity and true elegance, in harmony with that style of building. ground floor of the tower is made into a vestry, and a small loft provided over it for the organ and choir. The entrance is through a porch near the western end, near which is placed the font, of elegant design, carved out of the gritstone, with a neat cover to match. Three elegant arches span the two transepts and the end of the body of the church. Within the latter arch is the chancel, and beneath a very rich gothic window is placed the communion table, which is surrounded with ancient gothic wood work, finished with pediments and finials, with crockets up the angles of the pediments, and oak railing in front. The furniture, cushions, carpeting, &c., are crimson velvet and cloth. The whole, with the noble window, has an elegant and even rich appearance. See a sketch of the interior on the next page.

Here only, with the exception of the gothic tracery in the roof, is there any attempt at enrichment. The pulpits and reading desk, both of the octagon form, are placed at the corners of the transepts, by which arrangement the view is wholly unobstructed from the tower to the chancel. A ceiling is avoided, as unsuitable to a gothic building. The bays and the space above to the top of the roof being filled in with finished gothic tracery, which with the spandrels



resting on corbels springing from the walls on each side, give an arched appearance and boldness to the whole; at the same time greater elevation is obtained, an object of no small importance, especially in churches. And when we look at the general character of the building, the substantial nature of the work, the elegant tower, finished octagon with gothic battlements, flying buttresses, pinnacles terminated by a spire of such an elevation, we are surprised at the small sum (£2,250.) with which all this has been effected. The whole reflects great credit on the architects (Messrs. Weightman and Hadfield, of Sheffield) and on the members of the Committee who had the chief management in its erection.

The transepts, and down each side of the body of the church, are pewed, while the centre is fitted up with comfortable benches with backs and kneeling boards as free sittings. We like this arrangement, not only for its effect, but because it enables the poor man to obtain as good a position for

hearing and seeing as the rich.

The present incumbent is the Rev. William Gibbs Barker.

GLENORCHY CHAPEL.

This chapel, with the adjoining house, was built about the year 1777 (I am credibly informed) by Sir Richard Arkwright, for Mr. Need, of Nottingham, then in partnership with him. Mr. Need made it over to his son-in-law, Mr. Abney, who converted it into a chapel—a place of the kind being much needed in the neighbourhood; but it was understood to be in connexion with the church establishment. There appears to have been a decided connexion between the mill and the present chapel property at one time, as the road to the mill was originally through the chapel house gateway. But for some reason or other, probably from the death of Mr. Need, the property was offered for sale about the time the benevolent Lady Glenorchy visited the Bath; who, finding no place in this neighbourhood where the Gospel was preached, became the purchaser, and had it opened in connexion with the Presbyterians or Independents. On her decease the property was devised to the Rev. Jonathan Scott. It has subsequently been devised to Thomas Wilson, Esq., of Highbury, who repewed it at his own expense, during the ministry of the Rev. R. Littler, who was much respected for his judicious and efficient labours here during a period of nine years.

It is situated at the south entrance of the Bath. The

present minister is the Rev. T. M. Newnes.

The hours of Service at each place, are half-past ten morning, and half-past six evening in the summer months.

CHAPTER V.

NATURAL CURIOSITIES, CAVERNS AND MINES, PETRIFYING WELLS, MUSEUMS, AND THE LIBRARY.

CAVERNS AND MINES.

THE CUMBERLAND CAVERN, belonging to Messrs. Peter and John Smedley, is the oldest and most natural, and the largest but one in Matlock. Viewed geologically, it is by far the most interesting. The measures are so completely dislocated and thrown in a thousand ways out of their original position

that it is utterly impossible to state the exact line of dip or even their order of superposition. On entering, and before we descend 20 yards, both the first and second clays are distinctly seen belonging to the superior measures, but the third clay is below these at a great depth, and separates the Dunstone, or Magnesian beds. This occurs in the long flat gallery; the roof, analogous to the ceiling of a house, is supported by upright walls, and is about 100 yards long, 18 feet high, about 20 broad, and quite horizontal, a strip of the limestone (a rider probably) is lying horizontally between the clay (as the guide facetiously terms it) like flitches of The utter ruin exhibited at the extremity of this is fearful-masses of rock of gigantic size are thrown into the most extraordinary positions. One mass, of many tons weight, is seen resting on a mere point. The natural arch below is fine, and its curved roof is beautifully studded and fretted with the snow fossil, or white stalactite. The selenite also occurs here (a sulphate of lime) and casts of pectens, entrochites, and coralloids. It has been shown as a Cavern

for about eighty years.

THE RUTLAND, (The Old Nestor Mine) is decidedly the largest Cavern in Matlock, presenting the most magnificent openings, and what adds considerably to the interest is, that the whole of these mighty excavations have been effected throughout successive ages by the agency of man. The iron Roman, the Saxon, and the Dane, down to the men of our own day, have successively worked it, and all of them left proofs of their unwearied industry, cupidity and skill. The old workings are easily recognized in what is called the Roman Hall. The natural arches, lofty openings, with roofs rich in tracery not unlike those of cathedrals, when lit, are magnificent. Jacob's Well is an object of interest, the water is so pure, reflecting the sparry bottom, that the stranger is likely to proceed onward till he places his foot into it without at all suspecting it exists here. Indeed this Cavern is so spacious that it is stated 10,000 men might be concealed in The present gateway leading to it has been blasted and cut away about seventy years, to enable the parties to clear the workings to admit of its being shown; and from the refuse brought out, the magnificent terrace was made, commanding the finest views in Matlock, It abounds with zinc ores, and that beautiful species of the green carbonate, called "cupreous," likewise the cadmiferous calamine. Sections of the first limestone are seen on passing through the "gate," with fossils, also the clay and shale seams. It is perfectly dry and easy of access. This is situated on the Heights of

Abraham; the road is up the zigzag walk.

DEVONSHIRE CAVERN,-Proceeding downwards along the mountain side we come to this Cavern, discovered in 1824; it is chiefly in the Dunstone or Magnesian limestone. It is easy of access and dry. This Cavern, though not so large as the other two, is remarkably distinguished from them by a spacious opening, presenting the novel spectacle of a smooth ceiling or roof, dipping at an angle of 45°, and supported by natural walls almost perpendicular,—this opening is about 200 feet long and 40 wide; and when lit, by placing a Bengal light on a massive rock at the upper end, it is truly magnificent. Another advantage is, that parties entering as they do at a lower point, are astonished to be issued out at a far loftier and different way, commanding some good views. The minerals are similar to those in the others. This Cavern is exhibited to perfection by B. Bryan, the guide, who is perfectly "au fait" in guiding, and holds both this and the Rutland Cavern.

THE NEW SPEEDWELL MINE, Upper Wood, near the Romantic Rocks .- This is decidedly one of the most interesting Mines, or Caverns, in the Bath, from the profusion of stalactites in every imaginable form, and of the most beautiful description; crystals of dog tooth, and cubic fluor spars, line the innumerable cavities which occur in the Mine; when the light is thrown upon them, they have a most brilliant effect. For many hundred square feet the "hading" side of the vein is literally covered with the most beautiful white stalactites, disposed in folds as well as pendant, which are sometimes so remarkably grouped and florrid as to assume the appearance of a cauliflower. A specimen, now in the Conservatory at Chatsworth, is grouped like a series of organ pipes attached to a plate or horizontal layer of the same material. Some of these lateral plates or layers occur in a series one above another, with slight divisions from one-eighth to an inch apart, their under sides thickly studded with minute stalactites of exquisite whiteness. These plates are singularly attached to the solid rock on one side, and to the mineral contents of the vein on the other; and although all this is on a small scale, still it is an interesting exhibition, and illustrative of the more magnificent grotto of Antiparos, of which we read in our schoolboy days.

Some of the larger openings in the mine are very romantic and beautiful when lit up by a Bengal light. The length of the mine shown to visitors from the south entrance to the upper end is 431 feet. The way to it is through the Romantic Rocks, the mine hillock being at their extreme upper end, from whence there is a good view of the Dale. We then explore the mine, which is still in work, and emerge out of it in the upper wood by a higher and different way, without the necessity of retracing our steps. Benjamin Froggat, an intelligent and remarkably civil man, shows this and the rocks, and is also a guide to the scenery generally.

The Side Mine, as it is called, under the High Tor, is one of considerable interest—the level "gate way" to the old workings is four hundred and one yards, or 1,203 feet in

length, directly under the mighty Tor, now closed.*

The High Tor Grotto, close by, exhibits some romantic openings, and the finest crystallizations of calcareous or dog-tooth spar in these kingdoms. The scalon dodecahedron, or double pyramid with zigzag, or unequal base, abounds here.

The charge for admittance to all these Caverns and Mines is one shilling each, exclusive of the guide, and Blue or Bengal lights; the use of the *latter* is perfectly optional. Chief guides, B. Froggat and B. Bryan; the former will be generally found on the Old Bath Terrace, and the latter on the Museum Parade.

PETRIFYING WELLS.

These are standing illustrations of the mode in which the vast Tufa Terrace, in which they are situated, has been formed in time past, when man disturbed not the natural operations of the hot Springs, which once were free and unrestrained, spreading over the base of the mountain. In these are found articles of all kinds, sent even from a distance to be petrified, and old wigs among the rest. But the parties here chiefly put in birds' nests and eggs, as being of more ready sale, which are simply encrusted by the limestone precipitated from the water as it rapidly evaporates; and to see this in actual operation, forms a strong inducement to parties to visit them. We shall take them as they occur, and first we find Mr. Pearson's, (the Royal Well,) visited by the princess

^{*} The Dutch Lead Works, recently erected by Mr. Stevens, occur here.

Victoria in October, 1832, on the road-side, just under the way leading to the Old Bath. Mr. Peter Smedley's, under his spar shops, still further on, where a piece of a cable of a man-of-war (the Victory) is now being petrified; and Mr. Boden's, by the Post office, near Saxton's Green, where the head and antlers of the deer killed at Chatsworth, on the arrival of the princess Victoria, were petrified and then sent to Chatsworth. All these three wells are literally filled with all sorts of things undergoing petrifaction, which must be shifted every now and then to prevent them sticking to each other, or to the bottom.

Recently, Mr. Walker, at the Boats, has made a large one by the side of the river, to which he politely ferries all par-

ties who wish it.



MUSEUMS, ETC.

Since our last edition we have to record the extinction of the Old Museum (Adam's, late Mawe's) after being in existence forty years, and we have therefore to commence with The Centre Museum, (Mr. Vallance's.)—Mr. Vallance has been in the business forty years—first with Messrs. Brown and Mawe, and then as agent for Mr. Mawe alone—

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and his establishment is now the first in importance and capacity. His long residence in the place, and his unremitting energy and attention, have enabled him to acquire a very splendid and extensive stock, which must impress any visitor who will look through it with the great beauty and perfection to which the native manufacture this place has now attained.

Mr. Buxton's Royal Museum.—This place has been made into a Museum about twenty-two years, and contains a great variety of fine things in Derbyshire Spar, Marbles, and Italian goods, which do great credit to the taste of the proprietor, who has of late made great additions to his stock, and very considerably enlarged his shop of late. Altogether

it is well worthy the attention of the visitor.

We shall now proceed to name the other shops as they occur on our road to Saxton's New Bath. First we find Mr. Pearson's, on the road side near to the obelisk, who has also one on the Temple Walk.—Mr. Peter Smedley's next occurs on the same side, further on, now the oldest worker and member in the spar-trade here; and who has a nice little shop with good things; and on the Green, Mrs. John Smedley, who also manufactures her own goods, and has been in the trade from childhood.—And further on, Mr. Boden's, by the Post Office; and though last not least, Mr. Walker's, over the ferry by the Boats.

HARTLE'S MUSEUM is now very much enlarged and nicely fitted up on the Green by Walker's Hotel. Mr. Hartle is a manufacturer of combs, &c.; he has also a collection of toys,

and many spar and marble goods.

The Chemist's Shop on the Museum Parade is of considerable advantage to the Bath, by enabling any party to obtain medicines readily, and many other useful articles.

LIBRARY.

MR. Bemrose of Derby has recently established a good Library, and possesses a capital and useful stock of Stationery, &c. The *Times*, and other papers and Periodicals are also taken in.

CHAPTER VI.

PEDESTRIAN TOURS,

OR SHORT RIDES AND DRIVES TO THE SCENERY AND OBJECTS OF INTEREST
IN MATLOCK BATH AND ITS ENVIRONS.

As a starting point we shall take the Museum Farade as being the most central and the least liable to objection. And it may be observed "en passant" that there are, in constant readiness, vehicles of all kinds for the convenience of visitors who may feel inclined to ride any of the distances, however short. And also ponies and donkies, with proper guides, to enable parties to scale the heights to the caverns, or to view the noble scenery.

Before proceeding to Willersley, we cannot omit noticing in our way the splendid grounds connected with the residence of Charles Clarke, Esq. Since our last edition, these have been extended and much beautified. We had the extreme gratification of going over these the other day with the gardener, Mr. Booker; and from him we learn, that Mr. Clarke has no objection to their being seen by strangers, if permission is asked. They are truly worth a visit.* On ascending the winding road, we at once get a view of the house, the conservatory, part of the Terrace Walk, and the elegant fountain, which is generally in play, and which is always a pleasing and delightful object, especially with such appendages as exist here. We ascend the steps by the conservatory, which is filled with beautiful things (flowering plants, &c.), and take our way up the walk, which leads,

^{*} The house and grounds are just beyond the toll-bar, opposite Masson Mill.

with many a turn, to a considerable height on the mountain side, with here and there a jutting crag, contrasting strikingly with the well-kept walks, and smooth lawns, and beautiful flowers and shrubs which adorn these grounds. To describe them is impossible, and our limits forbid enlarging upon their beauties. We may say, however, that as we ascend we are ever and anon arrested by some commanding or beautiful view, and would fain linger hours to admire it. finest, we conceive, both as to extent and power, is from the rustic summer-house near the top. Here the bold Cat Tor and Willersley Rocks, on which stand the gardens, are in our immediate front-the noble barrier of rocks, stretching on to Matlock, are on our left-a little to the right, below, the magnificent rocks of Scarthin Nick appear-and over these, stretching to a great distance, is the fine Valley of the Derwent, with its river, roads, canal, and railway-and, to complete the picture, Barrel Edge and the frowning Black Rocks are on our extreme right. All this, filled in with the richest vegetation, from the lovely flower to the stately tree, and the murmurs of the river's fall breaking on the ear, is, to say the least, most imposing. But we must descend, and only notice in our way the Fernery, containing plants of the hardy British tribe; and the next is the rustic grotto,* where we have one of the loveliest "peeps" we ever saw-the primitive and rocky character of the ground—the ample foliage, between which is seen, but far below, the river dashing over its stony bed, clear as the rock crystal in some places, but lashed into foam and spray in others—all which has a sublime effect. We leave the gardener to tell the rest, and quit this lovely spot with high admiration, and with thanks to the proprietor for his kind liberality.

WILLERSLEY GARDENS AND GROUNDS.

THESE interesting grounds, presenting such a variety of objects and views of incomparable beauty, induce us to give them the precedence of all others in the neighbourhood. They are kindly thrown open to the public on Mondays and Thursdays by their wealthy proprietor, Peter Arkweight,

^{*} A pair of very fine Eagles are caged here.

Esq., and may be seen from ten o'clock to four (afternoon) on these days.

To proceed to these grounds take the road to Cromford, through the Toll-bar, by Masson Mill and the Independent Chapel, till reaching the rocky portal, where the stranger will observe the gate and Porter's Lodge, by which entrance is obtained into the "Chapel Walk," which presents the first view of these grounds of great beauty and variety, and which we shall attempt, however feebly, to describe. stranger should first be informed that if he prefers to ride, the vehicle can be taken to the further gates over the bridge, where it is dismissed, as all parties must walk through the remaining part of the grounds, which, leading in many a devious path over them, terminate nearly opposite the Bath or Saxton's Green, where the gardener passes all the company through a door into the "Lovers' Walks,"-descending these to the boats, they are ferried over by Mr. Walker, when parties will find themselves but a short step from any of the Inns and Houses.

THE CHAPEL WALK AND SCENERY.

On entering the grounds of Willersley by the small lodge gate placed under and almost hidden by the towering and overhanging rocks, a view is opened looking down towards the Chapel, that is difficult of description. The winding road is on the descent close under the rocks, which here present an immense mural perpendicular barrier on the right, varying much in its height above the road as we advance, from 80 feet to 140 or 150. Its face is rent and broken into thousands of fissures, with here and there projecting angular over-hanging masses, into which the roots of the oak, the elm, the yew, &c., are inserted-towering aloft from the very edge of the summit, bidding defiance to the winds of Heaven, and forming something like a fretted, filligree work, as a beautiful finish to the majestic pile; more comparable from their venerable appearance to the dilapidated ruins of some old and mighty fortress, reared by the hand of man, than the effect of those tremendous forces which upheaved them. This pile extends about 300 yards, and suddenly diminishes from its lofty position, passing off in shelving step-like masses, till lost under the flat lawn. It dips so rapidly to the north-east, that although it attains the altitude

stated in front of Willersley, its breadth nowhere exceeds

thirty yards.

On attaining the end of this line, and looking to the south, a bold rock is seen, on the verge of which stands Rock House, chiefly hid by the wood-hence the name of Rock House is derived from its position. Just beneath this is the wharf, and termination of the Cromford canal, but likewise hidden by the luxuriant foliage. The observer will also discover the back of Cromford cotton-mills. The lawn is adorned on each side of the road with elm and lime trees, placed at irregular distances. Close underneath these rocks, once existed a few miners' huts or cottages, now no more. The average breadth from the rocks to the river is from twenty to thirty yards-the bank, bold and steep on entering, and passing off into a gentle sweep on advancing

towards the chapel.

On the left is seen in lofty pre-eminence, somewhat above the level of the rocks, Willersley Castle. It is situated on an elevated and partly artificial platform, at the foot of the bold rugged well-wooded cliff to the south of the Wild Cat Tor, which forms the extreme end of the line of rocks that runs in front of the Bath. The grounds, which have been formed by great labour, and laid out with much taste, extend to the right and left of the castle, descending rapidly in its immediate front, and presenting a bold eminence—then gently sweeping each way to the river's edge, which is here a powerful and rapid stream; impetuously rushing over its rugged and broken bed, giving birth to sounds more like the swell of a heavy sea, rolling in upon a rocky shore, than the flow of a river of such magnitude. These lawns, covered and clothed with the richest vegetation, clustered in places with groups of trees-here with the rustic thorn, and there with the glossy beech, or majestic elm, the bold rocks to the right, the castle with its embattled towers, and woody cliff to the left, groups of cattle here and there animating the scene, the river flowing between, the bridge and chapel; directly in front, its tower just emerging from between the luxuriant foliage, the south and lofty side of Riber Hill, in the distance, covered with plantations, forming the back ground-imagine all this variety and beauty illumined with the mellowed and soft glow of a declining summer's sun, and it will present one of the most varied, rich, and lovely pictures that can well be conceived-and one

highly calculated to give rise to the sweetest associations of which our nature is capable, in thus beholding a scene on which is forcibly exhibited the impress of Divine love and creative wisdom. And if nature ever calls us in irresistible accents, to admire and adore the "Hand that made us," it must be when viewing such manifestations of Heaven's boundless munificence in thus adorning the world we live in. But unless we are previously awakened by a voice-more impressive than the mighty thunder-" even the small still voice that whispers peace"-to arouse the spirit from its natural torpor and death-like slumber, the emotions generated by such scenes will pass away like the transient cloud and fleeting shadow, being lost in the false security of our own selfishness.

CROMFORD CHAPEL.

in so lovely a situation, is an object of considerable interest. This building was commenced by Sir Richard Arkwright, and completed by the late Richard Arkwright, Esq. design is simple and elegant. The material of which it is built is strong and durable, being of hewn small-grained red gritstone found in the neighbourhood. It was opened for the first time on the 4th of June, and consecrated on the 20th of September, 1797. Mr. Arkwright endowed it with £50. per annum. This sum has received considerable additions by a variety of grants made since that period. The Church is fitted up with an organ, a handsome marble font, and recently a neat and spacious gallery has been added at the expense of Mr. Arkwright, to afford additional room to an increasing congregation, and to about 350 week day and Sunday scholars; the Schools are kept up solely at the expense of Mr. Arkwright. The Rev. R. Jones is the present respected incumbent.

On passing the Chapel, through the gate, we reach the end of the bridge; the road over which leads to Lea Wood, Crich, South Wingfield, &c .- The latter road turns south-east, following the course of the stream. There is a road also to the village of Matlock, by Starkholms, over the sloping edge of Riber Hill; not many years have elapsed since this road formed the only line of route between Wirksworth, Crom-

ford, Matlock, and Darley Dale.

On passing the bridge, the gates are perceived to the left,

close to a farm-yard. Here we re-enter the grounds and pass on to the Castle. The carriage drive is up the ascent, having the lovely sloping meadows, river and rocks to the left, and a rude cliff covered with shrubs, stately trees, and abundance of underwood to the right. The fine green velvet carpet of these pleasure grounds is carried to their very feet and into every possible nook of their wavy outline. This is strikingly the case in the upper walks, and shows the immense painstaking, and persevering nicety in forming them, and the magnificent taste of the proprietor in thus judiciously making such lovely walks and sweet retreats on the sides of the rude cliff, without destroying altogether its original simplicity.

On reaching the Castle there is a guide-post, directing the stranger to the Gardens, leading to the right in an easterly direction, up the rugged cliff covered with a profusion of native plants and trees, amongst which winds the walk made of the broken fragments of calcareous spar, whitish and glistening in the sun beam, with sweet intervening peeps of the lawns, rocks, and dale, till, on suddenly arriving at the turn northward, the "Grove" of surpassing beauty comes into view. The walk from the house is canopied with noble oak, elm and lime trees, perfumed with shrubs (aborigines of the rough cliff), which cannot fail to delight the stranger. But the Grove is an object of such singular beauty that it must strike the most thoughtless and indifferent observer. Here on the right, an isolated rock, springing up as it were out of the verdant lawn, with a group of eight detached and similar masses on the left, form the portal to this sylvan scene. Directly between these is seen the bold mural cliff, overhung and darkly shaded by the yew and the hazel, which bounds the serpentine walk even to the summit of the crag; the lovely lawns spreading on either side canopied with majestic trees. The isolated rocks seem to have kept their original position amidst the wreck of the cliff, and have a remarkable appearance, being surrounded with so much beauty.* But we shall not attempt to describe this enchanting spot, which vividly recalls to the mind the magnificent Groves of ancient time, where a Socrates taught his pupils

^{*} On the lower side of the group, the stranger may enter the rocks directly under the root of a lime tree. The radicals, now clothed with bark, like the trunk, bearing it aloft at least six feet. Doubtless this fissure has been filled up originally, but the material removed, most likely by the miner in search of ore, who left the trees standing in its present singular position.

lessons of divine philosophy, or where a greater than Socrates, of Infinite character, though in human form, taught the sublime lessons of our common Faith amongst the vines of En-

geddi, or on the Mount of Olives.

On making our way upwards through the Grove we soon reach the summit of the crag, when "proud Masson" comes into view. Turning to the right and passing nearly straight on amongst abundance of hollies, laurels, graceful arbour vitæs, purple beeches, &c., we cross the walk leading from the field to the back of the gardens, and in about twenty yards bearing rather to the left, the door and gardener's bell are seen. The gardener, Mr. Kerr, will answer readily to its summons; and his obliging manner and unobtrusive attention will not fail to add an additional interest to the unrivalled beauties unfolded at every step over these romantic

and charming grounds.

The gardens are not generally shown to the public—the grounds being considered the chief attraction; but still they have been and are of considerable interest. In producing grapes in winter, they are unrivalled, and the pineries are excelled by few. The information given on these points by the gardener cannot fail to please those who are privileged to see them. The stranger is conducted first to the "Cat Tor." Here we have fine and more extended prospects-Cromford Moor is seen in all its bold and massive outline, judiciously laid out in fields and woods, according to the circumstances and nature of the ground. It is but a few years since this was covered with heath and furze, unsightly mine hillocks and rude cliffs, with few or no trees to hide them*-indeed the whole of these splendid grounds was once a wild desert, trodden only by the miner. The Black Rocks are most striking, covered with firs, backed by the lofty and thickly wooded Barrel Edge. A little lower down to the east, is perceived the chimney of the first engine-house of the High Peak Railway, towering from amongst the woods of the cliff, beneath which the Railway runs. Still further on is Longnor Wood and a view of the river, canal, Derby road, Rail-

^{*} There has been considerable difficulty in getting any thing to grow on some of the hillocks. One rather low down, thinly covered with trees, was once the site of a "Cupola," or Smelting furnace, the material or refuse of which destroys vegetation. Mr. Webb, who laid out these grounds, deserves great credit for his judgment and taste. Mr. Arkwright planted, on the average for seven years, 50,000 trees annually.

way, and the delightful valley stretching as far as Crich Chase,

We now approach the Cat Tor, a singularly isolated mass, a monument of strength and durability, standing proudly amidst the broken fragments strewed on all hands, and strikingly exhibiting the mighty forces once brought into action, in distant eras, to break up the earth's crust. walk and trees, here untrimmed, are in admirable keeping with the noble pile, for here Nature is allowed chiefly to sport at will. The way to the top is over the wild cliff, darkly shaded by the self-sown tree, a couple of rude stones form the bridge over the deep, but narrow fissure, and lands the stranger on to the green patch which covers the top.

From hence the view is of the most commanding and beautiful description. The fine sweep of the massive ramparts opposite to the Bath is here seen to their full extent, enriched with the self-sown tree and shrub from the base to the summit; -over these the eye is carried onward to the Tor, its broad face and lofty peaks brightly illumined, it may be, by the declining sun, rendering it beautiful. In front and to the left are the noble Heights, with the Bath and all its objects of interest and beauty, (probably animated with numerous parties) embosomed below-just beneath is seen the river, unruffled, gracefully shaded by majestic trees, and perhaps groups of visitors in the boats gliding over its glassy mirror, enjoying its refreshing coolness, and enraptured with the magnificent scenery around them. Immediately below to the left the river loses its quiet and peaceful character, breaking in fury over the Weir and foaming amongst the dark fragments under it—and close by, the Mill mingles the din of its heavy machinery with the roar of the fall.

The author can never forget the day when he had the pleasure of accompanying the celebrated Dr. Chalmers over these grounds, nor especially his remarks on beholding this magnificent prospect. He to whom the gigantic peaks, wild glens, lochs, and trossacks of the Highlands of Scotland were

so familiar, admired this scene exceedingly.

We are led from hence down through a natural fissure into a grove below. The descent is facilitated in part by rustic steps covered with moss; then on to a soft mossy carpet at the foot of the rock, which appears to belong to the second limestone,* and these successive masses seem piled up like

^{*} Here, as well as on other parts of the rocks, the stranger will discover

regular masonry. We now soon reach the walk through large fragments with mossy coverings. It is utterly impossible to do these walks justice by any description. The wild vegetation interspersed with fine park-like oaks, beautiful lawns, intervening rock and crag, with very pretty peeps through narrow vistas, opening into the Dale beyond, are ever arresting the stranger. One of these* is most enchanting. Here there is a seat. The foreground is hazel bushes, and the view, between lofty trees—the curve of the rocks and heights shuts in this view; at the extreme point, just visible, is the old lower tower—most of the other houses being quite hidden, giving it a wild and romantic character.

We shall now beg the stranger to step on, a little more rapidly over these grounds, having said enough, we trust, to induce any party to visit them, and it may be affirmed that no one can fail to be gratified in making the experiment, as they decidedly form one of the greatest attractions in the neighbourhood of Matlock Bath; and few will forget to bestow a meed of praise on the taste displayed-nothing being introduced which would be out of keeping with the natural simplicity and wildness of the grounds. We proceed up through the flower garden, by the green-house, till reaching the "wicket" where we are led from the garden into the walk which crests the Heights, and situated on their extreme verge. In passing over this we have intervening peeps of great beauty-the verdant carpet being carried on to the projecting and overhanging angles of the rocks, till we come to the Lovers' Leap-another view, which we shall leave the stranger himself, when he gets home, to expatiate upon, having detained him perhaps too long ourselves. The gardener then leads the party down the steep descent to the private door, issues them through into the Lovers' Walk, and takes his leave, not without sufficient instructions, to proceed to the boats. But it may be observed, the lower walk is to be taken on reaching it, unless a party wishes to go up round the top of the rocks, and so down at the other end.

IMMENSE GOOSEBERRY TREE.—Before finally quitting these gardens we must give the dimensions of this extraordinary round whitish or yellowish spots and patches, and may be curious to know what they are. They are lichens, the first minute offspring of the vegetable world—incipient vegetation, which, when succeeded and filled up from this tiny production to the noble oak, it covers the world with

* The favourite view of the Duke of Devoushire.

tree. In 1841, one branch attained the enormous length of 40 feet, and the length of all the branches together was 365 feet. It is a wall tree and very productive. The longest branch has been removed, but one still exists 30 feet long.

CHAPTER VII.

LOVERS' WALKS, MASSON, HEIGHTS OF ABRAHAM, HIGH TOR, STONNIS, OR THE BLACK ROCKS, DUNGEON TORS, MATLOCK, CROMFORD, BONSALL, AND WIRKSWORTH.

LOVERS' WALKS AND BOATS.

THESE truly romantic regions, although they exhibit views of surpassing beauty, are somewhat similar to those described in the gardens, and therefore we need not describe them at length on the present occasion—but they should be viewed by all means, because they manifest more of that primitive character which enhances the interest of Matlock. exception of the walks, made to make the difficult ascents easy, the whole of this portion is allowed to assume, untouched, its native character. After crossing the boats from the Bath, we proceed to the north by the Alcove, ascend a series of rude steps, amongst trees, in which the crows have built their lofty eyries. The wild and hoarse scream of these birds serves to interest a party as they toil up the steep. The second alcove is soon reached, embowered amongst rocks and trees. This is called the Bird-cage Walk; from hence the way upwards is close under the lofty cliffs. These are composed of alternate layers of bad black marble, shale, and patches of black chert or flint-here and there studded with large fossil shells. By a few steps the summit is attained. The rude but pleasant walk turns southward over the winding crags. The noble Tor, at one or two points before the walk leads down the cliff, is a bold and magnificent object. This is particularly the case at the extreme point before descending where the cottages at the extremity of the Dale, and Matlock Bank and the Moors bounding the view northward, are all extremely interesting. The walk takes many a mazy turn until it reaches the one leading up to the gardens. A little below this, a few steps lead up to a natural fissure, and just above is a mine called "Barker's Venture." A singular old man who worked it for many years had the honour of attaching his name to it. Three more turns bring the stranger to the brink of the stream. A little to the left, towards the wall, in a recess of the hill is an old mine now out of work.

The walk called the "Lovers'" leads direct north to the boats, which are the favourite attraction of all parties. To sail up and down the stream, and enjoy the refreshing coolness on its surface, and the magnificent views opening on all sides of its banks, adorned with many a noble tree and shrub, deriving their nourishment from its moistened bed, and gracefully bending down to kiss its glassy surface, as if in token of the favour conferred; and sometimes laving their projecting boughs, borne down by their very luxuriance, in its cooling waters.

A sail by moonlight is deeply interesting. The exquisite scenery of Matlock, which in the day attains its greatest beauty and grandeur, has an overpowering, solemn and wild magnificence by moonlight.—And to watch the moon from its waters as she slowly emerges in silent grandeur above the

rugged rocks, is most enchanting.*

The boats and walks have been nearly 90 years in the possession of Mr. Walker and his father, whose civility, attention, and reasonable charges to the visitors, give universal satisfaction. The charge for a sail in the boats up and down the river and seeing the walks is 6d. each.

MASSON ZIGZAG, HEIGHTS OF ABRAHAM, AND THE RUTLAND CAVERN.

We have often had occasion to name these extraordinary Heights, viewed at a distance, but now we shall have the pleasure of leading the stranger amongst their woods, charming recesses, and on to their lofty terraces; this being also one of the best ways to the towering summit of Masson, their

^{*} On fine summer evenings, many parties go to regale themselves with a sail, and loiter on the waters sometimes to a late hour. On such occasions, a band is sent for, to mingle the strains of "music that charms" with the solemn dash of the oar glittering in the moonbeam; and at intervals ladies will tune their sweet voices to heavenly music, when it is literally thrilling, entrancing the soul and carrying it aloft in its conceptions to kindlier skies.

thick woods stretching upwards near to that commanding eminence, the loftiest point in the Low Peak.

On leaving the Museum Parade we proceed to the Fountain gardens, already noticed, to the north of the Bath; passing these, the winding path (cork screw walk) leads to the lower lodge; one turn more leads to the octagon lodge above, where proper directions are given to the heights.* Here is the old bridle road from Bonsall to Matlock village (free to all); but to enter the beautiful zigzag which winds up by the lower tower, a small charge is made, to recompense the proprietor for the great outlay in making it, which enables the stranger with ease to scale the bold acclivity through tall pines, glossy beech trees and cedars, which form a good screen from the burning sun or the piercing cold, and here and there a flower bed, Balm of Gilead, and rare shrubs are met with adorning its recesses. The third turn leads directly on to the Cavern Terrace by the upper tower, where seats are provided for the party to rest and enjoy a view which includes the whole of the noble scenery of Matlock.

Fine view.—As this view has been given in detail from other points, we shall not attempt to describe it. Here all is concentrated into one magnificent whole. The curved rocky barrier, river, Bath, and numberless objects, of great beauty are placed beneath the feet of the spectator.† Leaving this, a few yards upwards leads to the grateful shade of the upper alcove, where, by the judicious management and good taste of the proprietor in opening a vista, by felling the trees opposite to it, there is a lovely peep into the Bath. A few more turns (always taking the right hand road) and the extreme angle is reached, and the first view to the north-east is obtained, one of great extent and deep interest. Here the stranger will find himself elevated considerably above the Tor, which should be seen when the sun is fast declining to

^{*} Here 6d. will be politely demanded, if the party is determined to proceed to the Heights, which will not be considered an overcharge when the immense labour to form these walks is considered, and the annual expense in keeping them in order. One shilling only is charged for the whole year. A party intending to see the Cavern, which is one shilling, is freed through the walks. One half of these Heights has been planted more than sixty years, the other half about thirty.

⁺ Two ship guns are placed here and used on all public occasions; they were sent from Hull for this purpose by the spirited proprietor of these heights, Mr. Pechell.

the west, as then the lofty top and cliffs of Masson on its eastern side are cast into deep shade, while he throws all his glorious effulgence on the broad face and rugged peaks of the Tor and the wide spreading landscape beyond. The first view is beautiful, between pines and hawthorns, but limited. We shall therefore proceed to the higher point, by far the most extensive and magnificent by the new Tower.

VERY FINE VIEW.—Directly over the Tor, here losing some of its lofty stature, but not its interest, is seen Lumsdale, with its factories and bleach fields, and a little to the left Matlock Bank, and in the distance the black heathy moors form the boundary; over these the Chesterfield road is distinctly traceable; nearer home, about the centre of the picture the tower of Matlock Church, emerging from the wood, is a fine object; to the left is Cliff-house and some cottages, and immediately beneath, flowing at the base of the Tor, the river appears—the murmur of its waters over the fall and amongst the broken fragments, breaking gently on the ear. This point is little more than half way up.

The walk, recently much improved, leads from hence over the mine hillocks of the Long-rake, worked for ages; first by the iron Roman, and afterwards by the successive masters of our country, down to our own day. This charming walk is carried onward directly through the wood along the steep sides of the mountain, and partly amongst old mine hillocks, and after emerging through a stile into the wood, splendid views are obtained, then gradually descending and turning southward by a rude tract to the upper wood and romantic rocks, a party cannot fail to be gratified by the extensive views obtained, and it is by far the easiest descent from the heights. Just before quitting the wood a new pathway is made, leading down again to the Cavern terrace.*

SUMMIT OF MASSON.

To gain this point the rude path must be taken, through a a gap in the wall to the right above the mine hillock, and here it becomes mountainous and rugged, but not at all impas-

^{*} There are a series of walks lately made on this beautiful Mountain Side, which lead by the Upper Tower, through groves, interesting crags and mines, and up to the walk alluded to above, and are ultimately to be carried to the very summit.

sable. Tracing the rude path and bearing rather to the left, the stranger will soon find himself on the Height of Masson Low. But there is now an excellent and more easy walk made by Mr. Pechell, which diverges out of the main walk just named above, a little beyond the mine hillocks. This takes to the right and leads direct to the top. We shall just point out the lofty eminences seen from this stupendous height, and leave an abler pen to describe it. Beginning in the west and proceeding to the east, we behold first Hopton and Middleton Moors, Wirksworth Moor (rather low and isolated,) Cromford Moor or Barrel Edge, covered with fir plantations, under which are the Black Rocks; Crich Chase and Cliff, with its Stand, is next most conspicuous, Tansley Moor directly to the north, but in the far distance, Ax Edge, near Buxton, may be seen with a good glass, and nearer home Riber Hill; between these bold objects a lovely view of the Vale of the Derwent is obtained, shooting as far as Crich Chase, rich in meadow, wood, and water-the Derby road, canal, rail, and river, running nearly parallel for some distance.

"The summit of the Heights of Abraham (or Masson Low) commands most interesting views over a vast extent of country; the eye ranges over a great portion of five counties, and looking eastwards it appears a plain to the sea; with a good glass, on a clear day, particular and striking objects are plainly distinguished in the counties of York, Nottingham,

Lincoln, and Leicester.

"Charnwood forest, and other remarkable features in Leicestershire, are visible to the naked eye when only half way up the Heights; but it is the splendid scenery immediately surrounding this sovereign of the mountains which is the fairy land that wins all hearts, the Paradise of the Peak, where the magician's wand has scattered the savage and the civilized in striking contrast and wonderful harmony—the shattered fragments of rugged and rifted rocks, the terrible and everlasting record of some mighty catastrophe, are softened down in gentle and quiet relief by the most luxuriant foliage and the richest verdure. When the thunder of the tempest sweeps fiercely over this Arcadian scene, terrific volleys from the bursting clouds echo their roll from rock to mountain—harmless in its effects, awful in its course, and sublime in its departure."

On descending a different way (to the south) and reaching

Ember-house, (a small farm house) a lane will take the stranger down to the interesting village of Bonsall, and he may extend his walk round through Cromford home. This walk is romantic, passing by the church beautifully situated, and through the picturesque village and dale, with its stream turning several mills, which are passed in succession on the road, also Alsop's Cupola. Get a peep into the Via Gellia, and mark the successive falls of water till Cromford is reached. From thence home by Scarthin Nick, which includes one of our finest walks and scenery. But the usual descent from Ember-house is down Potter's fields to the upper wood, and thence by the romantic rocks.

HIGH TOR.

This is a rock of high fame, not because of its superior loftiness or magnitude—for it is not more than 396 feet high—not half the height of Masson, and only thirty-six feet more than St. Paul's Cross; but because of the broad mass of perpendicular rock it presents at such an elevation to the eye. St. Paul's is lost in a point, but this rock to its very summit exhibits some hundreds of square yards of bare surface, like solid masonry, and supported on a base equally bold and



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gigantic-varying its angle of incidence from 45 to 90°, and clothed with brushwood and trees of every kind. The bare perpendicular face is about 150 feet, and it may be said to be without a covering, exposed to the winds of heaven, which smooth year after year its rugged surface, and fret its angles linearly, giving them a castellated appearance. The higher point is more uneven, peaked, and more richly wooded than the bolder face. Let a person suppose himself placed at the base of such a mass as this, and the cause of its towering majesty will be at once conceived. And let him also once place himself close by the river opposite to the Side Mine, and listen to the impetuous rush of its waters beneath him, not unlike the swell of a mighty sea, mingled with the din of the fall above, cresting its stream with foam, the towering hill of Masson rising rapidly on his left, its top unseen-and the majestic rock to the right, and (if at night) mingling as it were with the stars, which seem to rest upon its summit; and if at the time crested by the light of the moon, while its base is cast into deep shadow, the view will be most imposing, and he will be irresistibly compelled to admit that the Tor stands pre-eminent for grandeur and majesty.

Here the finest sections of the strata are laid open, and may be distinctly traced up the steep gully, where an open cutting of the Railway appears. At the bottom, the 3rd limestone, then a thick bed of toadstone, and then the 2nd or white limestone, and in succession the 1st limestone beds, including coralloid, and entrochi marbles, shales, and chert, which on reaching the base, may be traced round the south

end upwards to the top.

The view from the top is not commanding, but deeply interesting, from being clothed to the very edge with fine green fields and good pasture ground, and a party from these fields may safely approach to the verge of a precipice, which makes the stoutest heart tremble in looking down it, and the clearest

head giddy.

The walk to the top is beautiful; a party can reach the top by crossing WALKER'S BOATS, and passing along part of the Lovers' Walks through sweet meadows, and over by the Railway, then turning upwards round its base, and on reaching the old coes, or miners' huts above, near Starkholms, take a sharp turn through a gate up the plantation, by the mine hillock of the "hard rake," and on reaching the edge of the cliff, then turning north by a small, intricate, but safe path, which leads at once to the loftiest point. From hence Oker Hill and Darley Dale may be seen. We should advise a party to go round by Matlock village and over the ferry, or by the bridge, and so home, to enjoy other splendid views. [See the "North Entrance."]

In the plantations on the south of the Tor, is often heard in summer, that sweet bird of song the Nightingale, which is productive of the loftiest aspirations after "superior bliss,"

when heard in a peerless starry night.

STONNIS, OR "STONEHOUSE," CHARACTER OF THE GRITSTONE.

THESE form the craggy culminating points of the gritstone, as it laps over the shale and limestone measures. They have much the appearance of the overhanging crags of a sea beach which have withstood the shock of many a mountain wave, and the severity of many a rude storm. From the soft and inadhesive nature of the grit, it has been crumbled away, and that too very unequally, so that the harder masses project over the cliff considerably, some of them rounded off, and, pillow like, piled on each other to a great height.

The High Peak Railway passes close under the cliff, and is an interesting object, exhibiting a fine specimen of those intellectual energies given by a gracious God to man; and a striking proof of the truth of that passage, that "knowledge is power," for who would have thought of a railway over such acclivities, and apparently inaccessible tracts. This was

one of the first in the kingdom.

We will give a few plain directions to the stranger respecting the way, and then allow an abler pen, with a slight

alteration, to describe it.

The most direct road is towards Wirksworth, up Cromford hill, till reaching nearly the top, where the road divides. The left hand road being taken, about a hundred yards from this, will bring the party opposite an immense mine hillock, with miners' coes on the top; here they must cross the hillock and pass over the railway; a gate will lead them to the foot of the cliff, and passing round by two mine hillocks, the ascent is made without much difficulty, and the party will be amply repaid for their toil—such is the glory and beauty of the scene presented to the eye. Some persons, familiar with this commanding view, on taking their

friends, persuade them to be blindfolded before they reach the top, then leading them safely to the highest point—the bandage is instantly removed, and the magnificent and widespreading landscape, in all its glory, is presented to the astonished beholder, such a one as few have seen. The following line has been carefully chiselled in the rock by some admirer of this fine view:

"Heavens! what a glorious prospect spreads around!"

Here we give place to Mr. Rhodes, the elegant author of the "Peak Scenery," whose observations on visiting this spot

are truly felicitous.

"I stood," he remarks, "on the top of Stonnis—masses of rock lay scattered at my feet—a grove of pines waved their dark branches over my head—far below, embosomed in an amphitheatre of hills, one of the finest landscapes that Nature any where presents was spread before me. The habitations of men, some near, and others far apart, were scattered over the scene; but, in the contemplation of the woods and rocks of Matlock Dale, the windings of the Derwent, the pine-crowned Heights of Abraham, and the proud hill of Masson, they were all forgotten: the structures man had reared seemed as nothing amidst the beauty and grandeur of the works of God.

"I have scaled the highest eminences in the mountainous districts of Derbyshire, seen from their summits the sweet dales that repose in tranquil beauty at their base, marked the multitude of hills included within the wide horizon they command, and my heart has thrilled with pleasure at the sight; but not an eminence that I ever before ascended, not a prospect, however rich and varied, which I thence descried, was at all comparable with the view from Stonnis. In that species of beauty, which, in landscape scenery, approaches to grandeur, it is unequalled in Derbyshire. The parts of which it is composed are of the first order, and they are combined with a felicity that but rarely occurs in nature. Scarthin Rock, the Woods of Willersley Castle, Matlock High Tor, the hills of Masson and Riber, are all noble objects; and the rude masses that constitute the fore-ground of the picture are thrown together, and grouped and coloured in a manner strikingly picturesque."

Wirksworth is only about a mile from hence.

ROMANTIC ROCKS, OR DUNGEON TORS.

These rocks exhibit an epitome of the Dale. It may be said they bear the impress in legible and more tangible characters of those mighty causes which gave birth to it. And therefore the Geologist will best study the miniature copy before he proceeds to the larger details of the Dale itself; as he will here behold the gigantic masses in every position, just as they were torn from their parent bed. The angles exactly corresponding, so that if he could by any possibility move them back, they would fit to the greatest nicety: indeed the whole of this part from behind the Old Bath upwards, is one mass of ruin, and cannot fail to elicit expressions of astonishment and wonder from the stranger. Let him but picture to himself millions of tons of broken fragments strewed over many acres, crested at the top, just under the lofty solid cliff by these romantic rocks, detached in so extraordinary a manner-some of them attaining the height of more than 40 feet, and apparently in the very act of being precipitated where thousands of such masses had gone before, and he needs not be surprised or alarmed if he has a sort of misgiving that the whole is still in downward motion. It is difficult to compare them to any thing existing-they may be said to be "sui generis"-their positions somewhat like the ruins of mighty pyramids. The grouping of their giant masses, exhibiting every variety of angle and feature, covered to their summits with moss and wild plants—the graceful sycamore, ash, elm, lime, and yew-tree, inserted into the lofty crag, or rising from amongst their ruins, and completely overshadowing them, giving a sombre and truly romantic character to the mighty and fearful group. In the morning, or at noon, when the rays of the sun pierce the ample shade, in which they are usually enveloped, they become still more imposing, and if the ear should be saluted by the soft and lovely tones of nature's own songsters, as they hop from bough to bough on the lofty trees above, the effect on a feeling mind cannot be appreciated. We have simply attempted to give an idea or two respecting these—to describe them would be impossible. But it may be remarked if there is a magic spell thrown around the dilapidations of that which man has reared—if there is a thrilling interest felt on visiting the spot where the eventful scenes of past time occurred, reflecting their light or dark shades

of bliss or woe upon succeeding ages—surely a visit to scenes which exhibit such strange disturbance amongst the works of God, and distinctly point to those mighty catastrophes which produced all the mountain groups and the lovely vales for the benefit of man, must be regarded with interest still more

profound.

"Ten minutes' walk" from the Old Bath Terrace will take a party to these remarkable Rocks, through a wood as wild in its character as it is abundant in wild plants. On passing through the broken wall about half way up, there is a path to the left which leads to one of the most interesting views in the Bath, which ought not to be omitted. The rocks are soon reached from hence.

WALK TO BONSALL AND THE TOP OF MASSON.

There is a most enchanting walk upwards from these over to Bonsall, to which a stranger may be easily directed by enquiring of some of the cottagers of the Upper Wood, which leads through rich pasture land, and commands some good views of the Via Gellia, the Moors, and the Vale below, and this too, is by far the easiest and most direct course to the top of Masson, on ascending the rude steps above the Fluor Mine, and taking to the left by two or three cottages, then to the right upwards through a gate; the way is direct past the farm, or Ember house, to the top.



MATLOCK VILLAGE.

This Village, two miles from Matlock Bath, is in the Wapentake of Wirksworth, and Deanery of Ashbourn; as already observed in our history of Matlock Bath, it is described in Doomsday Book as part of the King's Manor of Metesford.* We need therefore only refer to that history where it is brought down to the year 1628, when it was finally sold to Edward Ditchfield and others.† The parish and township are co-extensive. Four fairs are held in the

^{*} Lysons, vol. v. p. 206.

[†] By the kindness of a friend (Mr. Newbold) the Author has been favoured with a sight of the original deed of transfer of this Manor from the crown to "Ditchfield and others," made in the fourth year of Charles the First, 1628. The deed is drawn up in Latin, a language current amongst the learned in that day, and on tolerably good paper, bound in vellum. It is in a mutilated condition; on the title is "Secunda Lre Patent' gerent Dat' Nono die Septembris Anno quarto Regni Regis Caroli Nunc Anglia (1628)."—There is upwards of thirty Manors named in this old document, and enumerated at the end of it as granted by the Crown to different parties at or before that time. It is now deposited in the offices of Messrs, Milnes and Newbold, of Matlock Bath.

village annually. The Church is a good structure, embattled with a handsome square tower. On the ceiling are some rude, but interesting specimens, of what we may be allowed to call, Village painting—one figure, Death, seated on the half-opened tomb is very striking. There is also one monument of interest, that of Anthony Wolley (who died in 1578) and Agnes, his wife. On entering the Church by the porch on the right hand, will be seen suspended from a beam of the gallery, some relics of an ancient custom, now obsolete here, that is, crowns and garlands made of white paper. These were always hung up at the funeral of young persons, chiefly maidens. The custom is still kept up in many villages in the West Riding of Yorkshire, in part of Wales, and The living is a Rectory in the gift of the Dean elsewhere. of Lincoln. The Rector is the Rev. William Melville.

Part of the beautiful scenery in the neighbourhood of this village has been described in the "Geological character," and in our remarks on the "Northern entrance." But the views from the top of Matlock Bank and in Lumsdale, with its waterfall, and also from the top of Riber Hill are fine, and require a passing notice. The walk from Matlock by Starkholms to Cromford (the old road) affords good views.

On the top of Riber Hill, one mile above the village, once existed one of those stupendous monuments of the religion of our British ancestors, a Cromlech, which Mr. Bray mentions as much resembling the Cornish Logan Stone. This was unfortunately broken up some years since to build the stone fences on the hill. A Roman encampment was also once traceable here, but the plough, as on "Oker top," has done its business.

RIBER HILL AND CROMFORD.



HERE also stands the old Manor House—"Riber Hall"—now a farm house. The balustrades in front are so unique and beautiful that we are induced to give a sketch of two. There is a very fine view on the extreme height to the south overlooking Cromford—its bridge, chapel, and the fine lawns of Willersley Castle and Meadows, &c.

The Manor of Cromford (in Doomsday Book called Crunford) is a hamlet in the parish of Wirksworth. This Manor, at the conquest, belonged to the King; after which time it passed through various hands, and was ultimately purchased by Sir Richard Arkwright, of Peter Nightingale, Esq., of Lea. At that time it was an insignificant place, with very few inhabitants, but now they number about two thousand.

The cotton trade has been the chief cause of its present prosperity, but also much aided by the formation of the new line of road, Cromford Canal and High Peak Railway; the latter was constructed at a cost of nearly £200,000., and carried over immense steeps to Whaley-Bridge, where it joins the Peak Forest Canal.

Sir Richard Arkwright obtained the grant of a market, which is held on a Saturday, and is of great advantage to the neighbourhood.

Here is a handsome Free Day School, built and supported by the late Richard Arkwright, Esq., and still continued by the present inheritor of Willersley, Peter Arkwright, Esq.; likewise six Alms-houses, for six poor widows.

The wharf and the lead and colour works are constant sources of employment to the poorer population. It contains a handsome Inn, and is beautifully situated in a vale, almost surrounded by massive limestock rocks, and watered by two streamlets—one from the Cromford Moor Sough, and the other descends through Bonsall and Via Gellia. Cromford

is one mile from Bonsall, one from Matlock, and two from Wirksworth.

BONSALL,

Two miles from Matlock Bath. We have already directed the attention of the stranger to this picturesque mining village, in our remarks on Masson Low and the Romantic Rocks, and there pointed out two very interesting walks to it, commanding the most beautiful views down the Vale of the Derwent, and up the Via Gellia, which see (page 80.) The Church is an ancient structure with a square tower, terminated by a spire, and stands on a shelving rock above the Dale-viewed from which it has a striking effect, and is a fit subject for the pencil. There is an old Cross in the centre of the village, which is a curious object. A walk from Matlock over by the upper wood and down through this picturesque village to the Via Gellia, and so to Cromford, cannot fail to delight a stranger. scenery is rich and varied, and from Bonsall it presents, as Mr. Jewitt well observes, "one of the most interesting succession of Mills, Wheels, and Dams, for various purposes, formed by a mountain rill, that can any where be met with, and this, skirted by high mantling rocks, or rough stony mountains with a variety of foliage intermingled, will delight the eye and set the imagination to work to decide whether the beautiful or sublime most predominate." The Author would recommend the descent on this village by Ember lane as the most interesting, and would refer the reader to the description of the Via Gellia, &c., in the Tour to Dove-The Rev. E. S. Greville is the present Rector of dale. Bonsall.

WIRKSWORTH.

THREE MILES FROM MATLOCK BATH, AND TWO FROM CROMFORD,

Is a small Market Town of considerable antiquity. Its ancient name Pilkington gives as Werchesvorde, and it is considered to have been the chief Town in the Mineral district of the Low Peak during the time of the Romans. Here is the Moot Hall, where all causes respecting the Lead Mines within the Wapentake are tried; and in this is deposited the ancient Brass Dish, the standard by which all others are made for

measuring the ore. The market is held on a Tuesday. The Church is a good structure dedicated to St. Mary, and is in the gift of the Dean of Lincoln. The present Vicar is the Rev. Mr. Harward.

In the church-yard there is a handsome grammar school, Head Master, Rev. N. Hubbersty. This town has a Bank, Messrs. Arkwright and Co.; also some good shops. It contains about 4,000 inhabitants, and is beautifully situated on the slopes of the limestone measures. The high road from Derby into the Peak once passed through this town.

GENERAL NOTICES.

Post Office, just below Saxton's Hotel, near the Toll-bar. Post-mistress, Miss Brace. Letters for Bakewell and Buxton must be put in by ten o'clock, A.M.; but for London and all other places by six o'clock in the evening. The delivery generally of the letters takes place at eight o'clock in the morning, but at Buxton and Bakewell still later.

Royal Mail from Derby to Manchester, quarter past ten in the morning to the North; four in the afternoon to the South.

The "Omnibus" meets all the trains.

GEM OF THE PEAK.

PART II.

CHAPTER I.

EXCURSION TO CHATSWORTH.

DESCRIPTION OF THE ROUTE, MOOT-HALL MINE, OKER HILL, HACKNEY LANE, VILLAGE OF DARLEY, FINE YEW TREE, THE GROUSE INN, STAUN-TON WOODHOUSE, ROWSLEY, BEELEY, ENTRANCE TO THE PARK, ETC. ETC.

On the 29th of July, accompanied by two young friends, the author had determined on an excursion to Chatsworth (justly styled the Palace of the Peak,) Ashford, Monsal Dale, and Haddon. The morning was exceedingly propitious; an unclouded sky, through which the "God of day" rode majestically his fiery course, nearly approximating in power and effulgence to his career within the tropics, and might have been equally inconvenient, but for one of those delightful zephyrs which seldom fail to spring up in our ever varying climate, to mitigate the force of his rays.—It was indeed a glorious day, and such as is seldom witnessed in our island.

We started shortly after nine, in order to get to Chatsworth about the time the house is opened for visitors. Our way led through the narrow and once difficult defile of Matlock Bath, under the mighty Tor, with its bold, precipitous and rocky ramparts, clustered here and there with evergreens, and looking as they clung to their weather-beaten sides to the "ivy mantled towers of our fathers,"

mouldering to decay by the relentless hand of Time; on the left the steep ascent and lofty side of Masson, washed between by its lovely silver stream rolling over its pebbly bed, whose gentle murmurs formed a striking contrast to the romantic grandeur of the scenery amongst which it flowed.

Passing several neat cottages, we emerged from this wild spot into the more open space near Matlock village, situated on our right, partly on the outlying crags of the first limestone, where it culminates from under the shale and millstone grit, and partly on the lovely meadows at the lower end of Lumsdale. Our road wound over a low eminence to Matlock Bridge, on passing over which, we were much struck by the remarkable appearance of the rocks; immediately above which is situated Matlock Church, forming with its rich meadows below, and bold rocks,* a fine subject for the pencil. This we have noticed already in our remarks on the "geological character." Here a road branches off to the right to Matlock village, and over the elevated Moors to Ashover and Chesterfield. We kept to the left, along the course of the stream, through a pretty narrow dell, which suddenly opens into the more expansive Dale of Darley. On clearing the dell we were presented with a beautiful view of Darley Dale, stretching northward as far as Rowsley and Haddon, bounded on the left by Masson Low, Bonsall Moors, and the hills about Winster and Staunton-on the right, by the Moors and ridges of the Millstone grit, and, in the distance, by the bold ridge which separates the vales of Haddon and Chatsworth.

At the end of this dell the road is cut through a part of an old mine still in work, (the Moot-hall,) and once exceedingly productive in ore, but owing to the quantity of water from springs which drained into it, the workings were obliged to be abandoned for some time, notwithstanding the powerful

^{*} Here the rocks appear to be curved, and run with a fine undulating sweep till they are lost by dipping under Millstone grit and shale, which at this point overlaps the Limestone, and attains a great elevation in the hill, called Riber, rising to the southeast of the village. This singular character is occasioned by one of those very common occurrences in the Limestone, termed faults, owing originally to the disruption of the strata by volcanic forces, which have thrown up and broken the rocks here into smaller masses than usual. These, on falling together, formed an angle of exactly the same inclination at their point of junction, but by dipping, or being inclined the reverse way to each other, gives to them this singular appearance.

aid of the steam engine to work the pumps. While passing up the dell, the attention is arrested by the singular appearance of an isolated hill, called, "Oker," with apparently a solitary tree on its summit, but proceeding further, two are discovered to occupy the top, connected with which there is an extraordinary and interesting tradition, respecting two brothers, which has not escaped the enquiring mind of Wordsworth, nor his elegant and plaintive muse:

"Tis said that to the brow of yon fair hill
Two brothers clomb; and turning face to face,
Nor one look more exchanging, grief to still,
Or feed, each planted on that lofty place
A chosen tree. Then eager to fulfil
Their courses, like two new-born rivers, they
In opposite directions urged their way
Down from the far-seen mount. No blast might kill
Or blight that fond memorial. The trees grew,
And now entwine their arms: but ne'er again
Embraced those brothers upon earth's wide plain,
Nor aught of mutual joy or sorrow knew,
Until their spirits mingled in the sea
That to itself takes all—Eternity!"—Wordsworth.*

Keepsake, 1838.

This knoll, broken with numberless and graceful undulations, has a splendid effect, being so remarkably shaded when the sun has declined in the far west. Here was once a Roman Station for the protection of their mineral treasures—As an evidence of this, "on these ancient platforms of their legions," have been found silver coins and warlike instruments—Gisborne, in his "Reflections," a Poem, has some good lines on this hill, which we will quote.

Oker, what events "in olden times"
Hast thou not witness'd! With unholy knees
What idolists have press'd thy bloody turf!
What heaving altars, and what rites profane
Hast thou not seen, when heroes, sheath'd in mail,
Sang their mad pæans to the god of war,
The demon Mars!—Lately around thy brow
Rampart and mouldering trench we fondly traced,
And sure a bolder sight for host encamp'd
Was rarely found. So insular thy form,
So steep, irregular in daring height;
From whence no movement of insidious foe
Ambush'd in Cowley's thickets, could escape

[•] These trees, the Author has been informed, were planted by a person named Shore, for a fancy; some say to make his coffin.

Rome's piercing eye.* But now what frowns remain Of all thy warlike sternness? Tearing down Each bulwark of antiquity, the plough Feels no remorse; and peasants smile to view Greensward, that once so gracefully adorn'd Thine opening brakes of ever-blooming gorse, All withered, all upturn'd!

Further on, in what is called Hackney Lane, we passed respectively the residences of - Washington, Esq. the property of Joseph Paxton, Esq., who here first erected a small glass house, attached to the mansion, the first embryo of the Crystal Palace in Hyde Park, besides others, we next pass on the left, to P. Walthall's Esq. The latter gentleman is a deputy Lieutenant of the County .- A little to the right, on passing the toll-gate, is the village of Toadhole, which is nestled in the hollow on the right, at the junction of two Dales, hence originated the unsavory name of Toadhole, above which, on the Moors, is Sydnope, the property of Sir Francis Darwin. On the left of this, prettily situated, is Darley Church, and the village of Darley-a good view of which is obtained from this part of the road. There is a noble yew in this churchyard, said to have existed 600 years, and considered the finest and oldest in the county, which is noticed in the following lines :-

"Nor shall thy reverend YEW, the Sire who holds
His sceptre verdant through the changeful year
Unnoticed stand. He has beheld, like thee,
Thousands entomb'd within his shadow; heard
For ages past the sobs, the heart-fetch'd groans
Of parting anguish ere the grave was closed,
And drank the mourner's tears!"

J. Gisborne.

Here on the right we pass Darley Hall, Benjamin Potter, Esq., and next is the Grouse Inn, very well situated. In the distance, on the ascent of the hills, is seen Wensley, with its pretty new church. About a mile above this, embosomed amongst the mountains, lies Winster—near which the continuous ridges of the limestone series are arrested, and their course thrown considerably to the westward, by what may be called an outlier of the millstone grit and shale, which by their broken and undulating tops being covered with fine

The lowlands, as well as the lofty banks contiguous to Cowley Hall, the property of Peter Arkwright, esq., of Willersley, probably formed a continuous jungle when the Romans were in possession of the country.

woods, give a peculiar richness and beauty to the scene. On one of these, a long ridge, rising to the height of 800 feet above the valley, has been lately built a large square tower, by W. P. Thornhill, Esq., of Staunton Hall. Directly in front, or "right a-head," to use a sea phrase, is a knoll covered with firs, standing out from the moorland or principal ridge, into the vale, on the face of which are the gardens and summerhouse of Stancliff Hall, and a little to the right is the house itself, the residence of Mrs. Hubbersty; but this knoll, with another in the distance, are beautiful objects, as seen from any part of the Dale, or from the heights above Matlock. Just under is the residence of Samuel Coltman, Esq. Here the Dale narrows considerably, and further on to the left, on the opposite side of the Dale, and on the declivity of the hill, is Staunton Woodhouse, the shooting box of the Duke of Rutland. The Duke only resides here for a week or two in the shooting season. About a mile further at the head of the Dale, is situated the pretty village of Rowsley, which, with its bridge and antiquated Inn, forms an interesting object;below this, a short distance, is the confluence of the Wye and the Derwent.

RAILWAY.

On taking up the line of Railway where we left off, the same beautiful scenery presents itself, right and left, as described in the roadway, and the traveller must look out for these objects in his rapid course to Rowsley, where he will find plenty of conveyances ready to take him to Chats-

worth, Haddon, and Bakewell.

As our first object was Chatsworth, on nearing Rowsley and close to the station, we took the road to the right, leaving Rowsley and the bridge to the left. We had scarcely ascended a gentle rising ground before we perceived the old hunting Tower peering from among the thick woods at the back of Chatsworth, and in another instant the southwestern angle of that noble building was distinctly visible. Here was a lovely view—right before us was Chatsworth Dale and Park, watered by the Derwent, with its fruitful meadows, lawns, and pleasure grounds, splendidly varied by a series of hills, and crowned with the stately pine, limes, &c. On the right, and in the extreme distance, the dark and shaggy peaks of the moorlands, forming a striking contrast to the fertile vale below, and, to the left, the hill which divides the Dales of Haddon and Chatsworth, and immediately in our

rear an extensive prospect presents itself, stretching far beyond Alport and Youlgrave, and bounded only by the high moors towards Newhaven, &c. A little further, at the bottom of rather a steep hill, where the road is crossed by a small streamlet, is the village of Beeley, and on a rising ground

above is sweetly situated the Church.

On Beeley Moor, are obtained the large millstones for grinding corn, which are conveyed down to the railway at Rowsley, and sent to all parts of the kingdom. The circumstance of this stone being so extensively quarried and used for this purpose, has given it the appellation of the millstone grit. And I may here observe, that this stone in some parts of these entensive Moors is finely variegated, in which case it is called the variegated sandstone. Most of the new buildings at Chatsworth, are constructed of this kind of gritstone from the quarries on Beeley Moor, Ball Cross, and Bakewell Edge, which present some beautiful specimens of its curved and variegated character, especially on the massive pillars supporting the fine cornices on each side of the beautiful gateways.

Shortly on passing the village we came to the Duke's private gate, but the public road lies to the left over the old bridge, which we took, and were in a few minutes within the

noble park of the Duke of Devonshire.

SPECIAL DIRECTIONS FOR CHATSWORTH.

WE observe the usual route is pointed out in the "Indicator," and as parties now usually travel post, or by Rail and Omnibus, there is less need for road directions. Consequently, we beg to make the remark, that parties should, after setting down at Chatsworth Inn, Edensor, to give directions for luncheon, or dinner, drive directly to the kitchen gardens, retaining the carriage till these beautiful gardens are seen, then drive to the house, and dismiss the carriage to Edensor, and order it down in two hours, or walk to the Inn from the house as circumstances may require. The gardens ought not on any account be omitted; they are some of the finest in Europe.

Observe neither Chatsworth nor the gardens can be seen till 11 o'clock in the morning, and not after five in the evening.

Haddon, which is a necessary drive in connexion, can be seen at any time. The drive from Chatsworth to Haddon (4 miles) is by Rowsley, and so by Bakewell to Buxton. An Omnibus meets every train at Rowsley for Chatsworth House and the Inn.

CHATSWORTH.

CHAPTER II.

PRELIMINARY REMARKS—EXTENT OF THE PARK—VIEW FROM THE NORTH WEST DESCRIBED, EDENSOR, ARCHITECTURAL CHARACTER, CHURCH, CHATSWORTH INN, BALL CROSS, ROMAN ENCAMPMENT, SCENERY, BRIDGE, BOWER OF MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS, ENTRANCE LODGE, WEEPING WILLOW, SUB HALL, GREAT HALL, STATE ROOMS, SOUTH GALLERIES, CHAPEL, DRAWING ROOMS, LIBRARIES, DINING ROOM, SCULPTURE GALLERY, ETC.

Chatsworth, how can I describe thee! Art thou not a Gem of purest water dug out of the rugged mountains that surround thee, cut and bounded by a thousand facets with exquisite skill and admirable taste to set off thy native beauties? Surely thou art a very Paradise, again established among the haunts of men—again adorning our "nether world!"

"I glanc'd around the" scene "from right to left, It seem'd as Paradise was passing by, And I beheld it from" a "secret cleft."

Edwards.

Reader, if you should be privileged to see Chatsworth on a day when the gleams of a brilliant summer's sun repose in soft and quiet glory on beautiful lawns, adorned with trees of such majesty, studding them in clusters, or forming a thick impenetrable barrier on their outskirts-swelling eminences, exhibiting the most graceful undulations for miles around you-the crystal stream here broken up into a series of eascades by rough artificial ledges, and there reflecting the fine objects on either side from its quiet expanse of waters-the deer of many species, and the lowing cattle tossing their heads aloft and plunging into its midst, or laving their sides as at a cooling fountain—the water-works throwing up perpetually their snowy and shining columns, as it were to the very heavens-the noble house, a perfect model of splendid workmanship and taste, on its elegant terrace, with its Indian flower-beds and sweet groves-its windows, balustrades and battlements gleaming in the sunbeam-To behold all this splendour nearly surrounded by a bleak belt of lofty mountains; their rugged and overhanging cliffs towering above it; as if chosen on purpose as a fitting and appropriate frame, the better to set off the varied charms and superlative beauties of this exquisite picture—then will you not be surprised that we have prefaced our observations on Chatsworth by a kind of rhapsody—for cold and frigid must be that heart which remains unmoved, when, on gently ascending the road over the rising ground in the park-the lovely pleasure grounds and glorious pile of Chatsworth breaks gradually on the view, like a moving picture, backed by woods of such magnificence, and shaggy moors of such elevation !- Surely combinations like these should kindle in the bosom the noblest sentiments, and excite the best and purest feelings of our nature !- It may be fearlessly stated that this is the real tendency of all such exhibitions of Nature's loveliness—therefore it can only be our own frail and fallen nature, shrouded with the darkness of its own imperfections, and the consequent multiplied evils of our changeful existence, that prevents us at any time from receiving the full effect of such beautiful objects-and enjoying the exquisite sensations they are calculated to excite. The following lines are happily illustrative of the transcendent effect of Chatsworth and its scenery on the mind of a stranger.

> "As to th' astonish'd seaman's startled sight, The city Venice midst the waves appears; Unlook'd for, thus, midst many a mountain height, The Devonian Hall its towers uprears."

"But chief amidst thy proudly pendant groves, Majestic Chatsworth! and thy fair domains, The Muse with loitering step delighted roves, Or thoughtful meditates her sylvan strains.

Or wrapt in fancy's bright elysian dream,
She wanders, Derwent! where with lingering pride,
The amber tressed Naïads of thy stream,
Through bending woods and vales luxuriant glide.

Fair, when the parting sun's mild golden light,
A mellower radiance on thy bosom throws;
But fairer, when the silver beams of night
With trembling lustre on thy stream repose."

R. Cunningham.

This extensive park, as already observed, presents a great variety of aspect, from the most graceful undulating hill and swelling eminence, interspersed with plantations, beautiful lawns and pleasure grounds, to the bold rugged cliff and lofty mountain, well watered and richly wooded, including an area of about 11 miles in circumference, stocked with about two thousand head of deer, sheep and cattle in vast numbers, and kept in the finest possible order. The substratum of this noble park is finely laminated, micacious sandstone, argillaceous grit and shale frequently alternating with each other.

On attaining the high ground, we had the first full view of this princely mansion, finely embosomed in

> 'Majestic woods of ever vigorous green: Stage above stage high waving o'er the hills.'—Thomson.

The road from hence takes a gentle sweep on the descent towards the house.

VILLAGE OF EDENSOR AND CHATSWORTH INN.

This little village, situated in the park, is first reached, and its old church and beautiful cottages in the Tudor, Elizabethan, and Swiss styles, give an air of rural beauty and artless simplicity to the scene. The whole of this part has been most materially and admirably altered and beautified by removing old buildings, planting trees, and throwing the interesting old church open to the view of the park; also by putting up handsome gates and ornamental lodges. Designing to leave our carriage at Edensor Inn, close by, we took the left hand road through the gate, and alighting under its pretty portico, and giving the needful directions to "mine Host," we proceeded to Chatsworth, about three quarters of a mile distant. On a subsequent visit, we took a ramble to the village and farm, of which we will give a slight sketch before we proceed to princely Chatsworth.



CHATSWORTH INN, EDENSOR, is delightfully situated in the Park, and but a short distance from Chatsworth House, and well adapted for the comfort and accommodation of all parties visiting Chatsworth and its neighbourhood—It is really a delightful retreat to spend a few days here amidst such fine objects, and we can speak from practical experience that nothing is wanting for the accommodation and comfort of visitors. The charges are moderate.

VISIT TO THE VILLAGE AND FARM.

Often have we passed this lovely village, but never found time to enter it, till one day last summer we were determined to do so, and were well repaid for the trouble. We entered it through handsomely carved gates, in harmony with the general style which reigned within. Here on our left the Lodge, a castellated structure in the Italian style, reared its lofty head; right before us the Old Church, with its gothic wall and machicolated towers, a little to the left, a beautiful Fountain in the Norman style, and close to this a highly ornamented house in the Anglo-Italian. Another higher up to the right was in the same style as the Fountain, and on either hand as we advanced we found the old English and Swiss styles prevail, some with the characters of the reigns of Henry VII.—VIII.—Mary—Elizabeth—James 1st.—and Charles II. all which are admirably adapted to Cottage

building, forming one of the most picturesque and beautiful villages we had ever seen. The air of neatness, nay, we might say elegance, of the Cottage Gardens, with trellis-work divisions, and beautiful parterres and lawns. The variety of the architectural orders, and the extremely beautiful finish of the work, as if it had the finishing touch of the first-rate artist, all seemed to inspire you with the idea that you were visiting some sweet secluded village beyond the Alps in the sunny south; certainly there is nothing like it in England, and the cleanliness and air of content so evidently expressed on the countenances of the inhabitants, showed that they knew their superior position, and felt thankful to the Duke, who had so nobly supplied them with such ornate and sweet dwellings, which form no inappropriate addition to the magnificent Park, or even princely Chatsworth itself.

BALL CROSS ROMAN ENCAMPMENT.

We sauntered up to the top of the village and as far as Ball Cross and Bakewell Edge, where the views of the Park and the surrounding country are very fine indeed. We wish his Grace would build a prospect tower here, it would command a panoramic view of all the surrounding heights and villages. Here we found the remains of a Roman encampment with vallas or deep trenches. No wonder this people chose such a commanding position for a station. This noble race of men, like the Druids, were fond of elevated spots.

But to return to the village. We entered the Church, which is most interesting for its antiquity, and for one very noble monument in the chancel, to the memory of the first Earl of Devonshire, which is of a rich and costly description. There are several figures the size of life, sculptured in variegated alabaster, and well done. This monument is strikingly impressive. There are other things worth seeing, but we have

not space to name them.

A visit to the Farm is an object of great interest, particularly to the agriculturist. Perhaps there is no one in the kingdom superior to it. The stock is extensive, and we might say splendid. On the first of December each year the stock is in perfection, and is then sold. Her Majesty visited the Farm when at Chatsworth, in 1843. Any one visiting it will receive every information, and the greatest civility from Mr. Swafield. Mr. Jepson had the kindness to take us over it.

There are very many beautiful walks about Chatsworth and neighbourhood glanced at elsewhere; but we must not omit to point out one specially, within a short walk of the Inn, that is BROOME HILL, distinguished by a clump of trees on its top. This point commands south eastward the finest view of the Park, including Chatsworth, the grand Conservatory, the fountains, and the Derwent :- To the north-east and west; we have views of Baslow and the Moors, Longstoneedge with Hassop Hall, the seat of Earl Newburgh-Great and Little Longstone, resposing along the foot of this bold ridge, and a multitude of conical hills and other objects, are visible within the ample scope that this hill commands. We were indebted to Mr. Jepson for pointing out this spot, which is only a short walk, or may be approached very closely at Pilsley with a carriage, sometimes a needful requisite for a delicate person. But we must not delay longer here but proceed to Chatsworth.

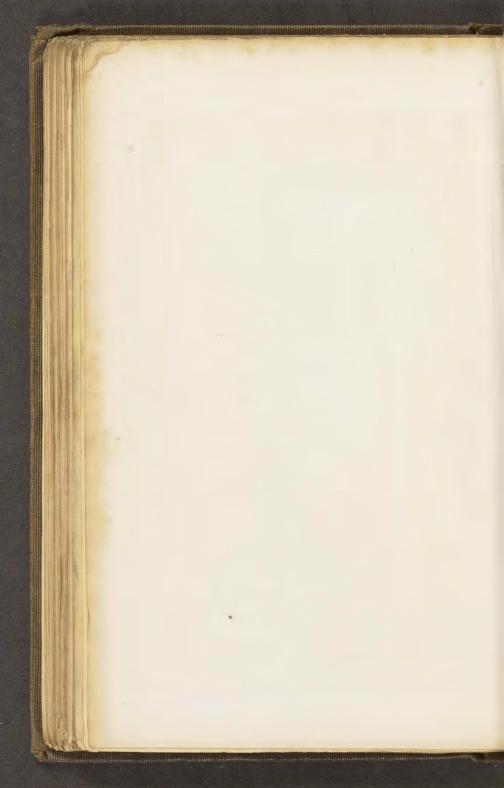
VIEW OF CHATSWORTH FROM THE NORTH-WEST.

On the higher ground, considerably to the left of the path. before reaching the bridge, by far the most magnificent view of the noble pile of Chatsworth is obtained, including the entire of the west front. The building from hence having all its varied and beautiful features laid open, has a most imposing appearance. The massive and richly ornamented square pile of the old house, with its rusticated base, beautiful Ionic fluted columns-pilasters-ornamented friezeand pediment (the arms of the Devonshire family most admirably sculptured in stone within the tympanum),* all surmounted with an open balustrade, divided into sections, and adorned with urns, vases, and statues-the simple, quiet beauty of the new wing in the Grecian style, with its elegant offices projecting considerably forwards, about midway, judiciously breaking its vast extent, the magnificent temple soaring aloft, with its open columns as a beautiful finish to the northern wing, + and a striking counterpart to the massive

^{*} These arms are said to have been sculptured by Samuel Watson, of Heanor, who did a great deal of the carving about Chatsworth, and executed, in connexion with Davies and Lobb, the fine wood carvings that enrich and distinguish it above most other houses. The beautiful "pen," was done by Watson; but the presiding genius over all was the celebrated Gibbons.

⁺ In the construction of this beautiful part, the Doric, Ionic, and Corinthian orders of Architecture are used, surmounted at the four angles with vases, which give it a light and elegant appearance.





pile to the south—the fine platform on which it stands, studded at intervals with graceful trees, which relieve the broad mass of exquisite masonry of a rich buff colour, with veins of a reddish tinge, giving to the whole structure a golden hue, -the elegant terraces, extending nearly 1200 feet, and flower garden, with its "jet d'eau" in front-the expansive river and fine grounds beneath, with groups of fallow deer and cattle reposing under the ample shade of the beech or chestnut -all this backed with hanging woods of great magnificence and beauty, form an exquisite picture, and scarcely to be equalled in the three kingdoms! On a fine sunny day it is truly sublime,* and it need scarcely be observed that we stood for a while to contemplate a scene so enchanting-a scene which a century ago could not have been dreamed of as likely to exist amongst heathy mountains and the wilds of the Peak. But it exhibits a splendid specimen of the enrichment of art, and the capability of a world, however sterile and forbidding in its natural aspect, of being converted, by persevering industry and judicious management, into a very Paradise.

Passing onwards we came to the elegant bridge of three arches which spans the lovely stream, ornamented with some good figures by Cibber. Northward of this a small tower is observed, darkly shaded with trees, encompassed by a moat, and approached by a flight of steps, called the

BOWER OF MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS,

from a garden which formerly occupied its summit, wherein that unhappy and beauteous princess passed many tedious hours of her confinement. Tedious indeed, as may be gathered from one of her attendants, who gave some interesting details respecting this Queen's usual avocations, in which we find the following remarks:—"All day she wrought with her nydill, and the diversity of the colours made the work seem less tedious, and contynued so long at it till very pyne made her give it over."

ENTRANCE TO CHATSWORTH.

Though it was early, we found, on coming in sight of the gates, many had preceded us—several parties in carriages, as

^{*} The foot-path has been altered, therefore a party to obtain this view must ascend the high ground considerably to the left, before reaching the bridge.

well as pedestrian groups, all anxiously waiting before the gates, the precise moment (eleven o'clock) when the house is opened. And as parties are introduced singly, to prevent confusion, and there being no order of precedence, we thought it right to obtain the first privilege of the entrée, which we succeeded in doing, and consequently were more at our ease in passing through the house than we otherwise should have been.

It is not our intention to give a minute detail of all the costly decorations and embellishments of this magnificent mansion, as that would be impossible in a work of so general a nature. The "Peak Scenery" in 2 vols., by the late Mr. E. Rhodes, (a gentleman who has done more than any other writer, to set off the fine alpine scenery of Derbyshire and the splendour of this "Palace of the Peak,") might be referred to. Therefore we shall lead the stranger as spiritedly through this noble house as possible—in fact, endeavour to keep pace with Mrs. Hastie, the respected house-keeper, (or the attendent on the party,) whose intelligence

and perfect acquaintance with all the minutiæ, will prove the best and happiest guide, whose patience is untiring, and

whose politeness and attention cannot be excelled.*

We were admitted through the middle gateway by the Porter's Lodge, and passing along by a handsome stone screen which covers all the offices to the left, we came into the great square plot in front of the entrance; in the middle of this there is a remarkably fine weeping ash, transported from Derby, April 10, 1830, where it had ornamented Wilson's grounds for upwards of 40 years prior to its removal. We now entered the first or

SUB HALL, containing some antique busts and figures. + Here in the centre of the ceiling is introduced Guidas Aurora, by

+ In this hall there are an ancient statue of Domitian, and a group presumed to be Germanicus and Agrippina. Four ancient busts are

^{*}The author begs to make these remarks, for this reason: some parties take their books, and will refer to every item, which are in many cases so frequently altered, that it confuses and puzzles the stranger, while it consumes an immensity of time; which cannot fail to prove extremely irksome to themselves and a hinderance to other parties, who may be following them. The book or guide should be read previously, or let a party endeavour to receive all the fine impressions the decorations of this house are calculated to inspire, and then in the quiet of the evening of the day, or on travel, endeavour to compare the objects imprinted on the mind with the details of the book, and the author will venture to assert that an infinitely greater pleasure will be obtained than by adopting the former method.

Miss Curzon. Two splendid gilt vases occupy the niches or side openings of the north corridor, into which we ascended by a flight of steps. This corridor has been much enriched by a tesselated pavement of elegant design, recently laid down, consisting of a variety of ornaments, inlaid with beautiful marbles, &c. Along the side walls also, are attached brackets, on which are placed some very fine antique busts, previously in the sub hall. And here also we were delighted to notice a plan the Duke has adopted, of enclosing the entrance to the corridor from the hall, as well as the openings at both ends, likewise those of the south galleries, with magnificent curtains of crimson silk velvet and silk damask. These curtains or portières are much in use in the saloons of This is a custom of very ancient date, which we have noticed in a note in our remarks on the ANCIENT STATE ROOMS in HADDON. The severe but chaste beauty of the Grecian style (of which CHATSWORTH is a fine specimen,) is more adapted to the warm climates in which it originated, and which required open corridors and marble halls for coolness-but in less genial climates these are perhaps not so suitable from their cold look, and the feeling it generates in cold weather; this feeling is completely done away with by the portières, which are handsome and elegant things in themselves.—From hence we enter the

GREAT HALL.—The paintings, which are by Verrio and Laguerre, represent the most prominent circumstances in the life and death of Julius Cæsar; such as—The passage of the Rubicon—his perilous voyage across the Adriatic to his army at Brundusium—his sacrifice before going to the Senate after closing the Temple of Janus—his death at the foot of Pompey's Statue, and his Apotheosis or Deification—the last occupies the ceiling: they are all splendidly done.* A Bust of Lady Dover, by Moore. A Bust of Christ, very fine, by David Dalchi.

A Gallery, to connect the old and new parts, defended by a series of open balustrades, has recently been carried round three sides of this magnificent Hall; the double row of steps has been removed and replaced by a single flight. In the placed on pedestals of Ashford black marble. Two more antiques were on the mantel-pieces, with admirable busts of Homer, Jupiter, Ariadne, Socrates, and Caracalla—all ancient, but which now occupy the brackets

in the corridor.

*An elegant carved caque, or Turkish pleasure-boat beautifully fitted up is now in this hall. It was brought by his Grace from Constantinople.

centre of the hall there is one of the largest entrochi marble slabs (the fossil encrinite embedded) I have ever seen, being eleven feet by seven. It is mounted on a magnificent carved gilt stand. Over the mantel-piece is the following inscriptions on the completion of this princely palace:

ÆDES HAS PATERNAS DILECTISSIMAS
ANNO LIBERTATIS ANGLICÆ MDCLXXXVIII INSTITUTAS
GYL, S. DEVONLÆ DVX ANNO MDCCCXI HÆRES ACCEPIT
ANNO MŒRORIS SVI MDCCCXL PERFECIT.*

We were issued from this by a flight of steps† into the grand south stairs, through the beautiful archway, which gives an airy lightness and great elegance to this end of the noble hall. The walls of the stairs are enriched with paintings, and the figures of Apollo, Lucretia, and Minerva, occupy the niches.

STATE ROOMS.—We entered these noble apartments from the stairs on the third story. The door cases are composed of the Derbyshire variegated alabaster, which are panelled and richly ornamented with foliage and flowers: these have a fine appearance. The state rooms form one of the most splendid parts of Chatsworth, and are eminently calculated to feast the eye and gratify the taste, being lined with wood of the choicest description, filled with beautiful and costly cabinets, carvings, and old paintings, and fitted up with Gobelin tapestries of the Cartoons of Raphael. ‡

The Mosaic floors are of oak curiously inlaid. The carvings in wood are in the highest state of excellence, consisting of representations of dead game, fish, flowers, shells, &c., strung together, forming festoons, ornamenting the door-

* Translation.—William Spencer, Duke of Devonshire, received as heir, in 1811, these most beautiful hereditary buildings, which were commenced in the year of English liberty, 1688. He completed them when in grief in the year 1840.

The cause of the melancholy statement made at the end of this inscription was the death of the Duke's niece, the youthful, benevolent, and lovely Countess of Burlington, who died in the spring of the year 1840. The Earl being the heir presumptive to the Dukedom it was fondly anticipated that she might eventually be the Duchess of Devonshire.

+ These are caused on both sides by the variegated Derbyshire alabaster,

which has a good effect.

† On the Cartoons are represented, the poor Cripple healed by St. Peter at the beautiful gate of the temple—the sacrifice at Lystra—the death of Ananias, &c. There are seven fine busts in the dining-room, which will be noticed with the Sculptures in the gallery, which see.

ways, picture frames, and walls; in one of which (the STATE MUSIC ROOM) is an oval portrait of the first Duke of Devonshire, and fourth Earl, surmounted by cherubs in the boldest relief, and the whole of exquisite workmanship. flowers exhibit a loose and buoyant elegance—the feathers of the birds a downy softness-in fact, as Allan Cunningham well expresses it-"the birds seem to live, the foliage to shoot, the flowers to expand beneath your eye." The most marvellous work of all is a net of game (ANTE-ROOM); you imagine at the first glance, that the gamekeeper has just hung up his day's sport on the wall, and that some of the birds are still in the death flutter.* The pen over the door of the dining-room leading to the south gallery, is so exquisitely done that it is scarcely distinguishable from real feather, so light, delicate, and accurate are all its delineations; approximating as nearly as possible to nature itself.

The whole of the ceilings in these splendid apartments are richly ornamented with a series of allegorical paintings. The ceiling of the state dining-room, the first of the series, is beautifully enriched, exhibiting some of the best productions of Verrio's pencil. The state drawing-room is splendidly painted. The principal subject is Phæton taking charge of the chariot of the Sun, and the other compartments contain other portions of history. That of the state music-room contains the discovery of Mars and Venus. The ceiling of the state bed-room is richly painted with the allegorical subjects of Aurora, or the morning Star chasing away night—also several circumstances in the history of Diana; Bacchus and Ariadne, Venus and Adonis, Meleager and Atalanta, and

Cephalus and Procris.

These noble rooms contain the state chairs and footstools used at the Coronation of King George the Third, which were the perquisites of the fourth Duke of Devonshire, being at the time Lord Chamberlain of his Majesty's Household; and the splendid gilt chairs which came in like manner by right of office, to his Grace the present Duke, in which his late Majesty and Queen Adelaide were crowned.

In the state music-room there is a portrait of the first Duke of Devonshire, in his robes of state, which we cannot pass unnoticed, as it is one of decided excellence, and of the highest order of painting. It is doubtful to whom the merit

^{*}Cunningham's life of Grinling Gibbons, published in the Family Library.

of this fine portrait is to be ascribed, whether to Mytems or Vansomer. Walpole considers it to be the work of the latter, both from the style of the painting and the position of the figure; be that as it may, it is one of high merit, and cannot fail to gratify the most fastidious connoisseur. A number of portraits and valuable pictures, an exquisite case of miniatures in porcelain, a beautiful Mosaic from Rome, (the Adrian Vase) splendid pier glasses, and other enrichments, give a grace and beauty to these magnificent rooms. The entire length of this suite is about one hundred and ninety feet.

In the state dining-room has lately been added a magnificent Malachite clock, and two very fine square vases of the same material, presents to his Grace from the Emperor Nicholas. The clock stands on the Malachite table, once in the chapel. In the old state bed-room, is the fine canory brought from Hardwick, worked by Elizabeth, Countess of Shrewsbury—and here, too, is the wardrobe of Louis XIV. A model of a Russian farm is in the state drawing-room.

The immense windows are composed of two pieces of plate glass, which heighten the effect, and the view from them is of the most beautiful description. Here we have lovely lawns and pleasure grounds, ornamental and expansive sheets of water (one enriched with sculptured figures of Tritons, sea horses, and statues, supplying perpetually fresh streams of water to the pool), and the noble and well wooded park on the one hand, extending far to the westward-the most interesting forest scenery ranging upward to the rugged cliff eastward on the other, and between the splendid oaks, elms, and limes, which bound and overshadow each side of the farthest pool with its powerful "fountain," throwing up its column an immense height, a vista is opened of the most glorious kind, disclosing the varied and rich scenery of the park, and the Vale of Chatsworth stretching towards Rowsley, Darley Dale, and the mountains, which bound these fertile districts. But we must hasten from these to the

South Galleries—the next part we have to notice.* The lower or first gallery, leading to the Chapel, has been rebuilt, and the upper one is entirely new. This gallery contains the unique and extensive collection of drawings by the most

^{*}The entrance to the lower one from the great south stairs is surmounted by a magnificent stag's head and antlers, richly gilt, from which depend in graceful folds curtains of the finest silk damask.

eminent masters of the Flemish, Venetian, Spanish, and Italian schools, consisting of nearly one thousand original sketches-Claude Lorraine, Correggio, Titian, Salvator, Raphael, Rubens, &c., have all contributed to form this exhibition of talent. The lower gallery, where these admirable specimens originally were, is fitted up with the cabinet pictures. These beautiful works of art have been removed from Devonshire House and Chiswick to enrich this part of Chatsworth, with many other paintings on a larger scale and of a very superior order, now placed in the drawingrooms, billiard-room, &c., which render this noble mansion now as distinguished for its paintings as it has long been for its sculptures. The artist and the man of taste will enter these galleries with a feeling of pleasure, and leave them with regret, as they form one of the finest collections in the kingdom of this creative and sublime art. Time and space equally forbid our doing more than making general observations, but we must remark on one in this gallery, and two in the red velvet room (west front); the first for its remarkable effect, and the others for their superlative merits.

On approaching this point from the gallery of drawings by the great west stairs, the eye is immediately arrested by a picture at the end of the gallery, "Monks at Prayer," of a superior order.* The positions of the figures are admirable, their occupation solemn, and the light streaming in upon them through the gothic window, giving a great clearness and prominence to the whole group, seems to inspirit it with life; one kneeling figure on the left of the picture is thrown out with great power. The effect of the whole is splendid.

RED VELVET AND BILLIARD ROOM.

This room is hung round with beautiful pictures, and contains the two already alluded to—one, the Spartan Isadas, is a splendid picture—a noble youth, who by his intrepid valour saved Sparta from plunder by the Theban soldiery, and was awarded a crown of honour for his distinguished services. This picture is a masterly composition and full of energy, by Eastlake, the Royal Academician. But if any one is disposed to quarrel with this, let him look at another, "Bolton Abbey in the olden time," by E. Landseer; a pic-

^{*}An original by Granet. This excellent picture formed part of the collection of the Duchess de Berri. There are several copies of this now extant, one is at Alton Towers.

ture which reflects the greatest credit on the artist, who, in its composition, has exhibited abilities of no common order. The Abbot—with the Monk at his elbow—the Breviary—the tribute of fish, fowl, game and venison—the bottle and wine-glass—the fat buck—the blooming but simple peasant girl, with her offering on the left hand, and the gamekeeper stooping on one knee, looking up with proud satisfaction to the Abbot, his dogs by his side, are all delineated with a faithfulness and truth that surpass any thing of the kind, which has appeared in our day, and well merited the approbation and distinguished honour bestowed upon the picture when exhibited at Somerset House.

THE CHAPEL.

From the lower gallery we are led into the beautiful and richly ornamented CHAPEL. Here a Laguerre, a Verrio, a Cibber, a Gibbons, and a Watson, have contributed their best energies to adorn this lovely temple of God. It is wainscoted with cedar. The statues of Faith and Hope (by Cibber), which form part of the Altar-piece, are carved in Derbyshire variegated alabaster. The Altar-piece is in the form of an arched recess, elaborately carved in the same material. The fine malachite table* once here, is removed to the state rooms, and supported by a massive black marble stand. This part, when viewed from the gallery, is exceedingly beautiful. The paintings of our Saviour healing all manner of diseases-His Conversation with the Woman of Samariaand the incredulity of St. Thomas (over the Altar-piece)the figures of Justice, Mercy, Charity, and Liberality, between the windows, together with the Ascension, splendidly done on the ceiling, are highly creditable to the artists employed. From hence we were introduced into THE DRAWING-ROOM SUITE .- From the gallery of the cabinet pictures, which has undergone a complete series of important alterations, and improvements of the most costly nature, all the old window sashes have been taken out and replaced with plate glass, consisting of only two immense squares; the ceilings retouched, the hangings of the walls taken down, and replaced by silk, damask, &c., of the richest description, the whole fitted

^{*} The beautiful material of which this table top is composed is a stalactitic formation of carbonate of copper, found in the mines of Siberia. It was made a present to his Grace by the Empress Alexandra.*

up in a style of unequalled beauty and splendour, and admirably harmonizing with the magnificent series of rooms in the new wing, with which it forms a connecting link through the noble library, making one complete suite, extending over an area of nearly seven hundred and fifty feet in length.*

We can speak but very generally of these splendid rooms. The ceiling of the great drawing-room, which is richly gilt, is divided into several compartments, from which may be suspended either one, two, or three chandeliers, if ever

thought necessary.

The music-room and the Duke's drawing-room have each a superb chandelier suspended from the centre. The chimney-pieces are exceedingly handsome, and of statuary marble; the cornice of one is supported by brackets or consoles well executed, over which are magnificent pier glasses. The walls are hung with the richest Indian brocade and Genoa velvet. Here is a splendid picture, by Rembrandt, of a Jewish Rabbi; a Belisarius, by Murillo; a Neptune rising from the Sea, by Luco Giordano, and a beautiful circular

slab of oriental alabaster or travertino, &c.

The paintings by the old masters in the grand drawing-room are placed in highly enriched gilt panels. The frames richly bordered with trellis-work, the panels being filled in with exquisite carvings of the Occidenum Cavendishianum, and other flowers and foliage of the same species. These pictures consist of a portrait of Mary Queen of Scots, by Frederigo Zuccaro; Charles the First, by Cornelius Janssan; Duke of Albemarle, by Sir Godfrey Kneller; Henry VIIIth, by Holbein; Philip IInd., by Titian; a Venetian Admiral, by Tintoretto; and the Archbishop of Spalatro; the latter is in the panel over the handsome chimney-piece, which is made of statuary and veined marble, the cornice supported by trusses.

Here is a beautiful figure of the Venus de Medicis, by Bartolini; the pedestal encircled by splendid ottomans. These rooms are ornamented with Mosaic tables of the finest specimens of Derbyshire, Italian, and Foreign marbles, stalactites, &c., and the furniture of the most gorgeous and elegant description. Two magnificent candelabra or tripods, of great size, for lights, were added to the ornamental decorations of

^{*} The dimensions of three of these magnificent rooms are as follows:—State Dining-Room, 50 ft. by 30 ft.; Music-Room, (drawing-room suite) 36 ft. by 30 ft.; Great Drawing-Room, 48 ft. by 28 ft. and 18 ft. high.

these rooms previous to the visit of her Majesty in 1843. From these beautiful rooms we generally proceed at once into the Library : but as it sometimes occurs that this is not convenient, the stranger is again led by the grand south stairs, through the great Hall, into the NORTH STAIRCASE, and by a door communicating with the Ante-Library into the new wing. We shall therefore turn out of our way a few minutes to notice the staircase, designed by Sir J. Wyatville, which, as Mr. Rhodes justly observes, "in extent, design, and beautiful detail," has a far better title to the term "grand," than the one near the south corridor. These stairs are of oak, with richly carved balustrades, &c. They are nearly 30 feet by 28, and 40 high. On the first landing, in splendid gilt frames, are two fine full-length portraits of the Emperor Nicholas and his Empress, painted at Moscow, by Dawe. Another picture of great merit lately placed here, is Richard Boyle, third Earl of Burlington, and a splendid full-length portrait of George IV., in his state robes, by Sir T. Lawrence.

LIBRARY.

A beautiful room, of great extent (nearly 90 feet by 22), and richly fitted up. The doors and bookcases are of the best Spanish mahogany, and tastefully carved. The chimneypiece, of Carrara marble, is massive, with two wreathed columns, and finely sculptured foliage supporting the shelf; above which stands a pair of elegant vases, urn shape, scalloped at the top, and enriched with foliage, of Siberian porcelain jasper, unique and beautiful; a magnificent plate glass, 6 feet by 10, surmounts the chimney-piece. A gallery defended by a rich balustrade, the mouldings exquisitely carved and gilt, extends along three sides of the room, approached by a secret winding-staircase in the wall, and supported by richly gilt semi-circular pilasters, which at the top, under the floor of the gallery, expand into a finely formed leafy bracket or cantie-lever, giving it a great degree of lightness and beauty. This has been constructed for the convenience of reaching the books from the upper shelves. The Library contains a magnificent collection of books and some MSS.; also the chemical collection and apparatus of the celebrated Henry Cavendish. In this splendid Library are some fine columns of Derbyshire black and rosewood marbles. The ground of the ceiling is pure white, adorned

with burnished goldwork, arranged so as to form a series of splendid frames to five beautiful circular paintings by Louis Charon, who obtained great reputation for painting Mytho-

logical and Poetical subjects.

The next in succession is the Ante-Library; a beautiful picture by Hayter, and two subjects, Night and Morning, by C. Landseer, adorn the ceiling of this apartment. Here are two handsome Vases of a peculiar marble called Occhio di Pavone, on half columns of granite. The window is plate glass, which has a splendid effect on the beautiful flower garden, lawns, and objects without; before this stands a frame fitted up with an immense collection of medallions of distinguished persons, both ancient and modern.

The next is a small but beautiful room. The roof is a richly ornamented dome, supported by four remarkable columns of oriental alabaster, and a splendid ancient marble, called "pavonazzetto," based on pedestals of statuary marble, and surmounted by exquisitely sculptured Corinthian capitals, in dead and burnished gold. The door from this little gem

leads into the magnificent

DINING-ROOM,

which is about 58 feet by 30 feet, and 25 feet in height. The author had the good fortune to behold this room when set out with unusual splendour, during the memorable visit of her present most gracious Majesty and her illustrious mother. The enrichments of the table, sideboards, &c., literally covered with a profusion of massive gold plate, exquisitely carved vases, urns, candelabra, in gold and silver, filled with the choicest and most beautiful flowers, diffusing a delightful fragrance over the entire space; the noble dimensions of the room itself, embellished with a coved and panelled ceiling richly guilt; the magnificent doorways, with costly columns supporting the cornice; the beautiful mantel-pieces, with splendid figures as side accompaniments, together with the fine family portraits-all illumined with a glorious effulgence of lights judiciously disposed, presented a spectacle of the most imposing nature, which vividly brought in review before the mind's eye the gorgeous pavilions of the east, and the most costly banquets recorded on the historic page, whether sacred or profane.

The full-length portraits which are found here of Sir Arthur Goodwin, Lady Wharton, Lady Rich, and the first Earl and Countess of Devonshire, are said to be by Vandyck; and a portrait of the second Duke of Devonshire, by Sir Godfrey Kneller; also a Countess of Devonshire and family, by Honthorst.

Six large and remarkable slabs in this room, mounted on richly embossed and splendidly burnished gold frames, serve for side tables. The two at the south end are porphyritic sienite, and are very beautiful. Those at the north are fine specimens of grey Siberian Jasper, with minute crystals of olivine or augite embedded, which, by becoming detached, occasion the slight cavities found on the surface. These remarkable slabs were presents from the Emperor Nicholas to his Grace. The two at the east side are a bianco nero antico—veneered on a composite. They appear to be composed of a calcareous spar and hornblend intermixed, and are peculiarly fine specimens.

The two chimney-pieces are of the most beautiful description, and of the purest statuary, with figures as large as life, sculptured in the most exquisite manner and boldest relief, by the younger Westmacott and Sievier. They are representations of Bacchantes, and the Shield of Hercules, by Schwantalla, of Munic. The four columns which support the pediment that enrich the doorways, are exceedingly beautiful, and perhaps the finest in Chatsworth. Those at the south end are of a Brecciated marble, called "Rosso Brecciato"—those at the north are an African Breccia. They are surmounted with Ionic capitals. The whole elevation, workmanship, and material of these two noble entrances are peculiarly appropriate to this magnificent room—a deep plinth of the grey Hopton marble surrounds it.

Between this noble apartment and the Sculpture gallery, there is a small ante-room, which communicates with all the lower offices.—It is fitted up for the accommodation of a musical band, so that the Duke may at any time call in the aid of this powerful and elevating auxiliary (music) to give an additional zest to the splendid and costly banquet.

SCULPTURE GALLERY.

GENERAL REMARKS ON THE IMPRESSIVENESS OF SCULPTURE,
AND ITS CAUSE.

In the ante-room, on each side of the entrance to the Sculpture Gallery, are two DIVINITIES in white marble. The position of these figures is exceedingly appropriate in the approach to this magnificent gallery.*—I have been in this room frequently, and the effect has been invariably the same on the mind, that is, transcendently powerful; which it is impossible to define. Here is a constellation of the most beautiful forms—exquisite representations of things, animate and inanimate; amongst which the human "face and form divine" is predominant, and superlatively graceful and lovely.

The effect on the mind at first sight is so strong, that it is difficult to divest it altogether of the idea that some of the lovely objects before it are endowed with life, instead of being the offspring of mere human hands, cut from the marble quarry. But what an exhibition of talent!—What an illustrious specimen of the mental powers, to be able to execute and embody such accurate imitations of living things, so as to deceive, and impose upon the understanding.

A certain author observes, that "the proud display of art, congregated together in this noble Gallery, may well humble inferior minds, and produce in the spectator a feeling of his own insignificence." True, it may-it ought to do so-but the superior and most refined will feel the keenest its own inferiority; nay, this very feeling of suppressed and breathless excitement on first viewing them, while it fills the mind with a degree of pleasure, a pleasure connected with something so overpowering, and not absolutely free from . pain, that it does lower the individual in his own estimation. But this arises from another and far different cause than that of comparing man with man-comparing the intellect and doings of one mind, however lofty and gigantic, with that of another less gifted; it arises from the discovery of the fact which steals irresistibly over the spirit, that however like, beautiful, and glorious these things may be, they bear the stamp of the maker's impotency-they mark, in the most

^{*}These are from the Jain Temples on the hill of Abor: sent from Guzerat by Lord Clare.

forcible and emphatic manner, the mighty gulf which separates intellectual man, however mighty, from the Supreme God. We walk in amongst them; we gaze upon them, but they are silent-motionless-fixed as death!-we touch them, and the very cold and clamminess of the stiffened corpse, come with a thrilling chillness over the spirit. This, therefore, may be the true and only cause of the impressiveness of all such exhibitions. Yes, we look on the exquisite form, trace out the fine outlines, the lovely lineaments, as if to catch the very expression—the very spirit of a departed friend-until we become fixed and motionless as the statue in contemplation; and we turn away with extreme reluctance and deep emotion when the truth rushes upon the mind, that that friend breathes no more !- lives no more, and shall not-till the same Voice that bade the Prophet cry, "Come, from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live;" which voice can in an instant convert by a word the very stones—the very dust of the earth into sentient beings. Ah, what is life!-we can approximate its outward cast, mould, or form !- and embody some of the most magnificent conceptions of living mind, and by these exhibit the grandeur of its faculties, and the nobleness of its nature; but, when all its powers are in the ascendant, all its aspects most favourable, and it soars aloft in the pursuit and contemplation of its object, surrounded with a brilliancy of light, a halo, shall I say, of celestial glory, on a sudden, before attaining the zenith, its torch is extinguished, and it falls prostrate in all the powerlessness of its own nature and then it would be well, if, feeling its own weakness and incapacity, it admitted the true light of inspiration, which alone is imperishable and almighty, giving to that mind fresh accessions of power and increasing brilliancy throughout time, until it is perfected by admission to the immediate precincts of the Divine throne, where its imperfections will be swallowed up and extinguished in a flood of glory, and its apprehensions calmed for ever, amidst the tranquillities of heaven.

We shall leave the reader in full possession of these sentiments and lead him simply through, pointing out, as we proceed, each beautiful form as it occurs in succession, and he shall make his own remarks on—the Mother of Napoleon—the Achilles—the Endymion—the Venus and Cupid—the beautiful Filatrice, or spinning Girl, with many others,

which are all exquisite productions, evincing talent of the

highest order.

It is impossible to give the statues in regular order, as they are sometimes changed. Two Figures of masterly execution, occupying positions nearly opposite the entrance, demand our first notice, both recumbent—they are the Sleeping Endymion, his dog watching at his feet, by Canova, on the right; Achilles wounded, on the left, by Albicini. Proceeding round the room and turning to the left hand, we find

Discobulus, by Kessells. In one panel of the pedestal is an inlaid slab, containing a variety of specimens of Swedish porphyry and granite, beautifully done, presented to the Duke by the proprietors of the Porphyry Works at Elfdalen. The other panel contains a very fine Mosaic from Hercu-

laneum.

Venus wounded by treading on a rose, and Cupid carefully extracting the thorn, by Tanerani; a slab of Oriental porphyry is inserted in the pedestal.

Cupid resting, by Trentanove. On the pedestal is inserted a Profile in relief. On the sides are two slabs, one a fine

agate jasper, the other Devonshire marble.

A colossal Bust of Buonaparte, by Canova, on a porphyry pedestal.

Princess Borghese, a recumbent figure, by Campbell.

Venus, by Gott.

Five very fine and beautiful small columns occur here. These were brought from Constantinople by the Count de Choiseul-Gouffier; two are of Oriental porphyry, two of Verd antico, and one of Giallo antico; the Corinthian capitals and bases of Giallo antico, worked at Rome. These are surmounted with vases and balls.

A statue of Madame Mére, mother of Napoleon, by

Canoya—a splendid figure.

Greyhound and Pups, by Gott.

Colossal Bust of Achilles, by Rennie, on a sienite pedestal.

A beautiful figure of Bacchante, with Tamborine, by Bartolini.

A Group—Latona with her children, (Apollo and Diana.) She is represented as having entreated Jupiter to change the people of Caria into frogs, for having insulted and refused her a draught of water; this lovely and exquisite group is by Pozzi.

A Vase of Siberian Serpentino, on a pedestal of Siberian

jasper. These were presents from the Emperor Nicholas.

Two splendid Lions, sculptured in admirable style out of Carrara marble, each weighing four tons, measuring nine feet long, and four or five feet high, occupy positions on each side of the north door-way. One of these by Rinaldi, and the other by Benaglia. The colossal Lions are from Canova's monument to Clement XIV., Rezzonico, in St. Peter's at Rome.

Two magnificent tables stand almost in front of each of the Lions. The smaller one, surrounded with a margin of Swedish porphyry, is composed of splendid slabs of Labrador Feldspar; the play of the colours, or irridescency from certain portions of this table, are remarkably beautiful. On this table stands one of the largest Blue John or Fluor Spar

vases in the world, being 20 inches over.

The larger is a magnificent specimen of Derbyshire Mosaic work, surrounding four panels of a very fine green stone, said to be from the island of Corsica, called Plasma verde, or in other words green Plasma. These have a good effect contrasted with the wreaths or scrolls of the Mosaic work, copied from a Moorish ornament in Murphy's Arabian Antiquities of Spain, which contains an immense number of beautiful marbles, &c. The margin is made of the Derbyshire red marble, or the "Rosso Moderno." Both tables are magnificently mounted on richly gilt stands.

Black marble double bust of Isis and Serapis, copied at Rome from the basalt bust, in the Museum of the Capitol. The marble from the Ashford quarries was sent to Rome by

the Duke for this purpose.

The Filatrice, or beautiful Spinning Girl, exquisitely done by Schadow. The pedestal is granite, a fragment of a column from the Forum at Rome, and still retaining its ancient polish.

A colossal Bust of Lucius Verus, splendidly executed, on

a granite pedestal.

Musidora, by Wyatt, pedestal Egyptian granite, or sienite. Venus, by Thorwaldsen, pedestal of Cipolino.

A colossal Bust of Alexander, an antique, on a sienite

pedestal.

Two Italian Dogs, in bronze, copied from an ancient marble in the Museum of the Vatican. On the pedestal is an alto relievo in bronze, from Michael Angelo, representing Count Ugolino and his sons; the allegorical figures are Famine and the River Arno, from Dante's Inferno.

A pretty figure, the Cymbal-player, pedestal gritstone, panelled with a bas relief of two Bacchanti, by R. West-

macott.

Two Fgyptian porphyry Tables, formed of a divided column, supported by chimæras of white marble, with porphyry plinths. On the centre of one of these stands the Obelisk of the Vatican, and on the other the Obelisk of Constantine, by the Church of St. John, at Lateran, both in Ashford black marble, and here, on four fine columns of Cipolino, are placed respectively—

A Bust of Ceres and a Bust of Bacchante, by Rinaldi.

A Bust of Petrarch's Laura, by Canova, and

A Bust of a Vestal, after Canova, by Trentanove.

A Hebe, by Canova; one of the most lovely, chaste, and beautiful figures in existence; pedestal oriental porphyry.

A statue of Cupid, by Finelli, finely executed, with the Butterfly inclosed between his hands, an image of Psyche, a beautiful Grecian idea of the soul—the best that could be given in that day without the light of Revelation. The chrysalis, or remarkable change of this lovely creature from the slow, unwieldy, and clumsy slug, to that of the light and elegant insect, floating with ease and gracefulness in the atmosphere, furnishing the idea. Pedestal of Africano.

Ganymede and the Eagle, by Tadolini.

Mars and Cupid, a colossal group, by Gibson, the pupil of Canova, the pedestal of oriental granite.

A Bust of Cardinal Gonsalvi, by Thorwaldsen. Princess Pauline Borghese, by Campbell. A Bust of Madame Mère, by Canova.

A Bust of Everett, by Powis.

In four circular niches (two at each end) are four colossal Busts—the Duke of Devonshire, by Campbell; Ariadne, by Gott: Canova, by Rinaldi; and a colossal Bust, an antique.

Some exquisitely executed representations of ancient Corinthian columns and cornices, and the Clementine column stand on the large table. They are in the Rosso-antico, and done at Rome. Every column and bracket around the room has placed on it some beautiful vase, obelisk, ancient head, or a unique ball made of some ancient fragment.

The following are chiefly in the State rooms.

A Bust of George the IVth, by Chantrey, on a large

grained red Oriental granite pedestal, or half column, and a bust of Canning, by Chantrey.

A Bust of Nicholas I., Emperor of Russia, by Rauch; and a Bust of the Empress Alexandra Feodorowna, by Wickmann; both on half columns of dark yellow marble.

A bronze Bust, by Campbell, of Thomas, Earl of Newburgh, on a half column, brought from Carthage by Sir Augustus Clifford.

A beautiful kneeling bronze Magdalene, on large grey granite, half column, is lately placed in the lower south gallery basement story.*

In the State drawing-rooms is a striking bust of Louis the XIV., the head in bronze, and the rest of oriental alabaster, on a half column; also in the STATE DINING ROOM, on brackets, are Busts of Fox, by Nollekens; Francis, Duke of Bedford; William, fifth Duke of Devonshire; Lord George Cavendish, and Lady George Cavendish, the latter by Bonelli.

The Vase occupying the centre of the room is a splendid production by Canteen, sculptured out of one block of the Mecklenburg granite, at Berlin, and measuring twenty feet in circumference, on a foot and plinth of the same material.

Another ancient Vase of great excellence, but of smaller dimensions, occurs on the right hand side, a Breccia or Conglomerate, called Fior di Persico. There are several beautiful inlaid tables, done by Derbyshire workmen, of great beauty. There are also several bas-reliefs on the wall in the Sculpture Gallery, viz., Priam petitioning Achilles for the dead body of Hector, by Thorwaldsen; Briseis taken from Achilles by Agamemnon's Heralds; the meeting of Hero and Leander, by Gibson; The Day; The Night (in circular compartments); Castor and Pollux carrying off the Wives of Lynceus and Idas.

This room is well arranged, and admirably adapted to give full effect to these fine things. The light is admitted from the top. The walls are solid masonry of finely rubbed

^{*} The original Magdelene, by Canova (of which this is a fine copy in bronze), belonged to the Marquis de Somariva, Reu bas du Ramport, Paris, and was sold at the death of his son, about eight years ago, to the late M. Aguado le Marquis de Lasmarylles, of Paris, for 66,000 francs. This chef-d'œuvre has been recently sold by auction for 59,500 francs (it is said) to the Duke de Sarraglia, who intends to remove the Magdalene to Italy.

variegated gritstone, of a quiet and pleasing colour. The door-ways are lined with entrochi marble,* splendid columns of a rare Egyptian green marble, supporting the entablature over them, occupy the north end, and those at the south are fine yellow jaspers, with the bases of the same piece as the columns.

ORANGERY.

This is the next in succession from the Gallery, a noble room, one hundred and eight feet long, twenty-seven feet wide, and twenty-one feet high. In the centre niche there is a beautiful group of Venus and Cupid at play, by Baruzzi. Here is the Medicean Vase, in white marble, the size of the original in the Gallery at Florence, with exquisitely sculptured figures in alto relievo, recording the death of Iphigenia, who is slain at the foot of the altar of Victory—pedestal variegated sand-stone, panelled with red oriental granite.† We saw this Vase with a powerful burner within it on the visit of the Queen, when it had a fine appearance, the figures on it being thrown out in the boldest relief.

Here there are some very fine Orange trees, which originally formed part of the celebrated collection of the Empress Josephine, at Malmaison; a splendid Rhododendron Arboreum, brought from Nepaul in 1820. It was most beautiful this year, and bore upwards of two thousand of the loveliest flowers.‡ Another we must name, the Altingia Excelsa, or Norfolk Island Pine—a beautiful tree. It bears the date of 1796. The glass roof of this room is supported by finely moulded arches, and the eleven windows are of plate glass. The door at the north end opens into a lobby, which com-

municates with the

BATHS AND BALL ROOM.

The latter is spacious, and is fitted up with two side boxes, the Music Gallery over, and so arranged that it may answer the purpose of a splendid Ball room, or an unique private Theatre. Some of the finest paintings and tapestry in Chatsworth adorn the ceilings and walls of this noble apartment; but we cannot help observing that its splendour

There are three of these splendid trees here at present.

^{*} Called so from containing the fossil Entrochite, or encrenitis. † This fine Vase was originally in the Sculpture Gallery. The author begs to add that the arrangement of some of the things is so often altered that it would be impossible to give them in consecutive order from one year to another.

and beauty are much impaired by the private boxes, and the two square portions at the west end taking up so much space, which gives it a heavy appearance.* Over this is the open Temple, in the richest Corinthian style of architecture, commanding magnificent views of Chatsworth Park, and the country for miles around.

The ancient fragments in Chatsworth are numerous, exhibiting the perfect and beautiful workmanship of an age

gone by, but never to be forgotten.+

We may be allowed to observe, before quitting the house for the gardens, that the new wing, in connexion with the east end of the old house, forms one of the most extensive, beautiful, and perfect suites of rooms in the country. The doors connecting each room are all of one width (six feet), and placed exactly opposite each other, which, when open, a vista is presented of the most glorious description, extending from the great Drawing Room to the Bath Lobby, a distance of 557 feet. The whole has such a splendid effect, that it is difficult to consider it, for a moment, any thing but a beautiful illusion. The fine things in the Libraries and Dining Room-the splendid chandeliers, apparently suspended in the air, and the beautiful proportions of the granite Vase in the Sculpture Gallery-the lovely flower of the Rhododendron in the Orangery, and the unique transparency (if seen at night), like a brilliant distant star in the Lobby—all these have a transcendant effect on the mind, and compels it to yield the palm to Chatsworth, for arrangement, effective display, and grandeur-to all other houses. Many who have thus seen it, have been perfectly astonished, and those who are capable of judging have pronounced it one of the finest suites in Europe.

In the Lobby there is a square window, filled in chiefly with some remarkably fine Derbyshire spars, stalactites, &c., which have a good effect.

⁺ An immense number of these are in the West Lodge.

CHAPTER III.

PLEASURE GROUNDS, FLOWER GARDEN, WATER-WORKS, JETS
D'EAUX, GRAND CONSERVATORY, ARBORETUM, HISTORY—
ANCIENT AND MODERN PERIOD, ROYAL VISIT (ACCOUNT OF),
KITCHEN GARDENS, CYCLOPEAN AQUEDUCT, DRIVE TO ASHFORD, ETC.

From the Orangery we descended by a flight of steps adorned on each side by two fine dancing figures after Canova,* into the flower-garden. Two magnificent Bell Vases of Swedish porphyry (Elfdalen) occupy the rounded extremities or massive termination of the balustrade, which have a good appearance, being beautifully spotted with crystals of Feldspar,+ highly polished, and calculated by their hardness and durability to stand all weathers. Pompey's pillar, which is of the Egyptian, has withstood the violence and erosion of nearly nineteen centuries, and yet located on the sea shore. It is now only slightly affected on the east side.

The hand of improvement has been busily at work in this beautiful Flower Garden. The unsightly fence which separated it from the stables has been removed, and a conservative wall erected in its stead, covered with beautiful plants, such as usually occupy our stoves and green-houses. The alterations are indeed striking and beautiful. The whole has been recently altered, the wall raised step above step, and covered with glass frames, admitting a space of more than two yards within, for the growth of rare exotics and beautiful plants: the length is one hundred yards, divided into eleven panels. A carriage drive has been made to lead to the Grand Conservatory and the Arboretum, winding amongst sloping banks planted with shrubs and rare exotics.

In the Temple is a statue of Diana, the work of a Greek sculptor (Prosalendi) at Corfu, on a pedestal of Ashford marble. But to return to the usual route. On passing between two large aloes, by a flight of steps to the Greenhouse, we find on the top of those a very fine sculptured Vase, with figures in bas-relief on an enriched marble pedestal.

^{*}These replaced the Dogs of Alcibiades which are now on the garden

⁺ This is the general character of porphyry. The appellation of porphyry being only given to a homogeneous mass of rock, with embedded crystals of some kind.

The Camellia house is well furnished with a variety of flowers, in addition to the Camellias, which are truly splendid when in bloom; the inmates and house are well suited to the beautiful flower-garden in connexion with it. The lawn in front of the green-house has been tastefully laid out in the Oriental style, with lovely flower beds and shrubs, amongst which are placed sixteen pillars,* surmounted with busts and figures (one, a colossal statue of Flora, is fine); and two ancient granite figures of Isis and Osiris, on raised pedestals, from the Great Temple at Carnac, occupy central positions on each side of the middle walk.† Chinese scent jars, &c., are tastefully arranged amongst them, giving to the whole a rich and beautiful appearance.

WATER-WORKS.

From hence we proceed to the Water-works, or Great Cascade, over the smooth lawns, both soft and cooling to the foot and grateful to the eye. These cascades are considerably elevated above the house, and consist of a good architectural square building, surmounted by a step-like dome, and profusely ornamented with lions' heads, dolphins, sea-nymphs, urns, &c., through which (when in play) the water rushes with great force, covering it with one broad mass of foam and spray, which, on falling into a basin in front, rolls down a great number of steps or ledges, for about three hundred yards, and is then engulphed, passing off amongst rude masses of stone, under the lawns to the river. It is usual for the stranger to follow the first flow of the current as it dashes downwards, and place himself on a seat provided at the bottom, between two massive vases, and statues on pedestals, to enjoy the magnificent view of this mass of water foaming above, which, contrasted with the verdant lawns, finely shaded with the towering and luxuriant foliage to the right and left, and backed by the lofty pine-crowned, rugged cliff, the waters sparkling like so many brilliants reflected beautifully in the sunbeam, has a most imposing and sublime effect. The statues of Ceres, a

+ These figures were sent to this country by Mr. Banks.

^{*} These pillars were brought from the inner court, where they supported the open balconies now taken down. The Busts, which are well carved in stone, surmounted these balconies, and are now judiciously placed on the top of the columns. They are said to represent celebrated persons in the reign of Queen Anne.

Grecian Shepherd, Mercury, and Esculapius, on pedestals in pairs, occupy each side of the terminus of the flowing waters.

On turning to the left, about a hundred yards from the water-falls, in the direction of the Conservatory, we found the weeping willow, where many an unlucky wight has had a good sousing before he is aware. Every branch and leaf of this is a tube or jet, emitting abundance of water the moment the gardener turns it on; but before this, parties are amused and delighted with the beautiful parasol or umbrella fountain being set in motion, which only serves to lull suspi-

cion respecting the willow and its naughty tricks.

We now proceeded to the south, under an arch of rude blocks of gritstone, and appeared at once to get amongst the rocky defiles of the cliff, through which a spacious winding carriage drive is made. Here the rounded and water-worn blocks of gritstone seemed strewed around us in every direction; amidst which, on the steep embankments and every part of the wavy outline, indigenous plants, rare exotics, shrubs, and flowers, grow luxuriantly, and a stream of water is seen dashing over an elevated rock, the whole bounded by the most magnificent beech, lime trees, sycamores, &c., we ever saw. This truly romantic part is admirably managed, and must have required immense labour to effect it. At the end of this we came to a rustic stone arch, through which the drive passes into an immense open area, in the centre of which stands the Conservatory. On emerging from the arch, this matchless structure appeared before us in all its grandeur. It seemed like a sea of glass when the waves are settling and smoothing down after a storm, which is the result of its undulating structure.* This

GRAND CONSERVATORY,

now completed, is on a scale of magnitude hitherto unequalled. It is placed in one of the most judicious positions that could have been selected to afford every needful protection. The thick wood, to the south of the water-works, has been cleared to the extent of several acres for the purpose. It has a south-western aspect, and effectually screened from the severity of the weather, by being belted round with lofty forest trees. This magnificent and unexampled struc-

The King of Saxony compared it to a "tropical scene, with a glass sky."

ture, has a central coved or arched roof, sixty-seven feet high, with a span of about seventy, resting on two rows of elegant iron pillars, twenty-eight feet high, and about equally dividing the building, admitting of ample space for some of the loftiest green and hot-house plants of all climates. All its floral and choice productions are planted in a soil essential to the nature of each species, in open borders; and the temperature so managed in its application to the different beds. as to suit the character of the plant. Round the base of the upper dome, a gallery is carried; and direct through the centre a spacious carriage drive is made. Such is the scale of this Conservatory, which, from an elevation of about four feet from the ground, is one mass of glass frames, in the style of ridge and furrow. Each plate of glass is four feet long by six inches wide, placed diagonally to that of the horizontal plane, in order to resist the effect of hail-storms. The coup d'æil is magnificent. The ascent to the gallery, carried round the base of the dome, is admirably contrived. By a series of rustic steps we wind up a magnificent rock-work, under rustic arches and overhanging blocks of grit. It covers about an acre, being two hundred and seventy-seven by one hundred and twenty-three feet.* The whole of the rock-work is covered with rare Ferns, and other Cryptogamic plants, with a variety of Cactus's and creeping plants, here and there affording sweet peeps into the different regions of the Conservatory as we ascend, when, on reaching the gallery, nearly the whole interior of this noble structure bursts upon the view.

The columns are supported by strong double brackets or conservative stays, fixed in a foundation of solid masonry. Between and beneath these is a network of iron tubes, connected with a series of tanks, carried round this centre portion. A similar series are carried round the side aisles, connected with similar tanks placed equidistant from each other, and by which means a constant circulation of hot water is kept up. The tubes, of considerable calibre, and measuring not less than six miles in length, are defended from the walk by elegant trellis-work.

But, to be more particular, we may observe that the form of the Conservatory is that of a parallelogram, the longest side of which measures 277 feet, the shortest 123. Around the principal area, is built, on a strong foundation of solid masonry, an arched basement wall, with a solid stone plinth-

^{*} Exclusive of the enclosed space without the Conservatory.

ing about four feet high. In the arches are fitted iron ventilators, which act as valves to regulate the temperature of this huge structure, and are assisted by a series of doors at the top, and another series round the gallery. From this sub-basement wall spring a series of strong elliptical ribs, made of wood, for lightness, the upper ends of which, at the height of 24 feet, are firmly fixed into a horizontal iron frame, which rests on two parallel ranges of iron pillars, with two cross pillars at each end of a light and airy structure, the ribs at the four angles being of superior strength. From this frame-work spring a series of similar ribs to the height of 35 feet, with a transverse span of 70 feet, so that the extreme culminating points are no less than 60 feet. The spaces between the ribs are filled in with an extremely light and elegant glazed frame-work, the sash-bars of which, if laid end to end, would reach to the amazing length of forty miles,* containing not less than seventy thousand square feet of glass. As we have already intimated, this is in the style of ridge and furrow, with the slips of glass (4 feet long by six inches wide) arranged in perpendicular rows at a high angle, that is, every two rows inclining to each other form acute angles upwards and downwards, giving the whole the appearance of a series of zig-zag lines of panes of glass one above another. From this peculiar structure of the glass frame-work, that is, a series of light iron elliptical ribs, which hold the slips together, both the inner and external surface of the conservatory present a succession of linear angular projections, a very clever arrangement to withstand the force and weight of hailstones during storms, as well as the violence of the sweeping whirlwind, which must be somewhat broken in its career by the inequalities of the surface.

This immense mountain of glass might be compared to three square half cones truncated at each end. The exterior base of the upper one resting on the apex of the two others; or, perhaps, to express the idea more clearly to the reader, we might state that the longitudinal part of the upper dome is a semi-cylinder, which, when joined to the semi-cylindrical transverse ends, forms groins at the respective angles. The whole has the grandest effect. Mr. Paxton is the sole contriver and architect of this wonderful conservatory. Dr. Granville observes, "Nor was the ingenious contrivance

^{*} These bars were made by a machine, the invention of Mr. Paxton.

(equally the invention of Mr. Paxton's own mind), for glazing the flanks and loftiest slopes of this HILL, as well as for covering its ribs with paint, less entitled to admiration. Its merits are simplicity and complete success." But to proceed to the interior, which we did through a very neat and elegant Grecian portico or porch, placed in the centre of the north end, when we were much struck with the vast areas included within this noble edifice.* The spacious carriage drive being in the centre enables us to estimate the great length of this tropical garden, where his Grace, in wet or dirty weather, can treat his visitors with a drive in a carriage and four; as many as three or four carriages have been in at a time during the Duke's last visit to Chatsworth.

We turn to the right on proceeding round to view the fine things and pass up the right aisle. We shall take the opportunity of naming, as we proceed, a few plants, and only a few, for to do more would be impossible in a work of this

kind.

The first that attracts the attention of the stranger, on entering, are two fine Dragon's Blood Trees (Dracæna Draco). Turning to the left, we first pass a lofty and graceful Tree Fern (Cibotium Billardiere); then the Prickly-Pear (Cactus Opuntia); the Flowering Banana (Musa Rosacea); the Dwarf Banana (Musa Cavendishii). We pass on to the Zamias; the Scarlet Flowering Banana (Musa Coccinea); the Chinese Air Plant (Renanthera Coccinea). We next come to the immense thicket of Bamboo Cane (Bambusa Arundinacea); the Sugar Cane (Saccharum Officinarum); the Coffee Plant (Coffea Arabica). The following are seen from the Middle Walk and from the Gallery :- The splendid Date Palm (Phœnix Dactylifera); the Tallipot Palm (Corypha Umbraculifera); (these two plants came from Waltonon-Thames to Chatsworth); the Cocoa-nut Palm (Cocos Plumosa), which has grown to the immense height of 56 feet; the large Sago Palm (Sagus Rumphii); the New Zealand Palm (Corypha Australis); the large Fern Palm (Sabal Blackburniana). The (Bambusa Arundinacea) Bamboo cane; (Araucaria Brasiliensis) Brazilian Pine; (Caladium Odoratum, Papyrus Antiquorum, † brought from Egypt in 1803;

+ Papyrus antiquorum is the plant from which the ancient Egyptians manufactured their paper.

^{*} Parties generally are not allowed to go beyond this unless they have the Duke's card or an order from Mr. Paxton.

Urania Speciosa, Caladium Violacem, and the Ficus Elastica, or Indian Rubber tree.

In fact, such is the variety, number, luxuriance, and magnitude of the tropical plants, the immense area they occupy, the extreme loftiness and airiness of the glass domes which canopy them over, admitting such an effulgence of light on all sides from the horizon to the zenith, that we are disposed to fancy ourselves transplanted to their Habitat, and enjoying the exquisite pleasure of a walk through an Indian Grove.

THE AQUARIUM.

We now go up the left aisle towards the Aquarium, an object of considerable interest, connected, as it is, with the huge rock-work, through which is the ascent to the gallery. This consists of an irregularly formed pool of water, enlivened with gold fish, aquatic plants, and fantastic rock-work, amongst which are many very fine stalactites, cubic fluor spars, dog-tooth, or Ecton spars,* some of which are of great value. On the left hand side of the centre walk, stands one of the largest and most magnificent hexagonal quartz crystals we have ever seen, with a pyramidal termination. In fact, the whole of this massive rockwork is studded here and there among the plants with rare and beautiful crystals of quartz, moon stone, Malachites, and green Arragonite, remarkable stalactites, stalagmites, and other fine things. One invaluable specimen of BLUE JOHN, or blue FLUOR SPAR, has been recently added to the collection, which has no equal for magnitude and peculiarity of structure.† So judicious is the construction of the ornate and grotesque work of this aquarium, with its wild flowers and shrubs, and other accompaniments, that it is really a scene of enchantment.

We now proceed to the gallery already described in our general remarks, which is supported by elegant brackets,

[•] This is calcarcous spar, a carbonate of lime (provincially dog-tooth), with copper pyrites embedded. The crystals are a double pyramid, called the Scalon Dodecahedron. This specimen is from the Ecton mine, belonging to the Duke.

⁺ This remarkable specimen was procured by the late Mr. Mawe, in 1813, and lay in the stone house till 1832, when it was removed to the Museum on the memorable visit of her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent and the Princess Victoria, for their inspection, where it remained till this spring, when his Grace became the purchaser. It weighs nearly five hundred weight.

and defended by a rich bronzed screen-work. The pillars and the ornate margins of the grand drive, and the walks, are of the same gold bronzed character. But to give anything like a correct idea of this gigantic Conservatory would be impossible, though we may be allowed to observe, that if St. Peter's at Rome surpasses all other structures for magnificence and extent, so does this splendid Conservatory surpass every thing of the kind hitherto erected,* except the Crystal Palace designed by the same eminent architect.

From the Conservatory we pass through a rustic arch, and find ourselves in a deep cutting of the shale, through which the carriage-drive is made, the lofty sides of which are strewed with the immense roots and trunks of decayed trees, as if they had been heaped up for ages by some convulsion of nature, some of them erect, and the whole of the banks planted solely with British ferns. This forms a very admirable and suitable approach to the

ARBORETUM,

which is on a large scale. Its object is to accommodate and naturalize every species of foreign tree and shrub, thousands of them having been already planted and arranged systematically on the sunny cliffs of Chatsworth: the towering crags and forests protecting them from the keen north and east winds, with convenient pools made here and there amongst these exotic beds, to furnish the requisite supply of water. The author was surprised and delighted, on ascending the walk, which takes many a mazy turn up the cliff, to find both sides adorned with trees and shrubs from every climate. This is a noble and truly patriotic undertaking.

At the end of a Vista, near the south end of the Great Conservatory, are some parts of one of the marble columns of the Temple of Sunium, which were brought home by Sir Augustus Clifford, when in command of the Euryalus, from the Mediterranean; on the pedestal are inscribed the following lines by Lord Morpeth:

"These fragments stood on Sunium's+ airy steep, They reared aloft Minerva's guardian shrine, Beneath them rolled the blue Ægean deep, And the Greek pilot hailed them as divine.

^{*} A tunnel, with a line of rails, is carried round the entire exterior, conveniently communicating with the stoves placed here at certain distances, which keep up the circulation of the water in the pipes.

† A promontory on which Minerva had a Temple.

Such was e'en then their look of calm repose As wafted round them came the sounds of fight, When the glad shout of conquering Athens rose O'er the long track of Persia's broken flight.

Though clasped by prostrate worshippers no more, They yet shall breathe a thrilling lesson here, Though distant from their own immortal shore, The spot they grace is still to Freedom dear."

Before quitting this part, we will just notice the old hunting tower, on the crest of the eastern hill, about half a mile above the house, which is seen rising from amongst the thick wood. It is a square building, with a round turret at each angle. On its loftiest battlement waves proudly the Duke's flag, as a certain indication of his Grace's presence at his Palace of the Peak. This Tower is supposed to have been erected as a station, where the ladies visiting at Chatsworth might overlook and enjoy, from such an elevation, the diversion of stag hunting, without incurring its perils or

enduring the fatigue attendant upon that sport.

On our return from the Conservatory (few even proceeding so far as the Arboretum), we ascend the steps of the great terrace walks, which is carried round the immense area, planted with fine shrubs. Here is a good view of this noble structure. We then wind our way amongst rock-work, and pass a beautiful bed on our right of Italian heath, the Erica Carnea. We then descend a series of steps, with a yew hedge, which forms a novel and elegant balustrade to them. The walk here leads to the bolten "strid," where the broken fragments of rocks seemed scattered around us in the wildest confusion, amongst which grow a profusion of the most beautiful plants and flowers.

The first jet d'eau is just below this, in a circular part, which is planted round with elegant yews. On looking back, a bold rock-work is a very imposing object in the view, and well planted. We proceed from hence to the next, and a much more powerful jet, placed in a very large oblong pool, directly opposite the south front, which throws

the water to the height of ninety-four feet. But

THE EMPEROR FOUNTAIN

is the most magnificent fountain in Europe. It attains the prodigious height of 267 feet. The valves connected with the pipes are of a peculiar construction, in order to resist the great force of the first admission of water from the

reservoir. The pipes are of great strength, and extends from the pool to the jet some thousands of feet in length. The metal required for their formation amounted to 217 tons. The perpendicular fall of water is 381 feet. This noble fountain was called the "Emperor," in consequence of the visit of his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Russia to this country the year it was finished, and who was expected at Chatsworth on its completion. In the centre of the immense square space between this and the house there is a noble circular pool, ornamented with tritons, sea-horses, and statues with jets.

Several improvements have recently been made in the other fountains at Chatsworth. The "Sea-horse pond" has been provided with a beautiful new fountain, where nine jets may be played at once, the centre jet rising above the others, and the whole forming an elegant figure. On either side of the great fountain there are fan fountains, which discharge the water in a singular manner. The west front fountain has been improved by spreading jets, and double-acting supply pipes—one pipe being within the other, supplied from different sources. The "sea-gods" have also been improved by water-pipes.

There has, within a short period, been laid down at Chatsworth, for the purpose of fountains, piping of various sizes, to the extent of 6,200 feet in length. The whole of the water-works, when simultaneously set in motion, which is sometimes the case, have a magnificent effect. The jets appear through and over the trees, viewed from a distance, like so many cones or pyramids of snow, and, reflected in the

sun, they have a most brilliant effect.*

Some elegant vases on pedestals, and statues, with rare shrubs and plants, ornament this fine portion of the grounds. We now proceed along the western terrace, overlooking the beautiful flower gardens. These are the last additions to these charming pleasure grounds, from plans by Sir Jeffrey Wyatville. They contain eight stone baskets, elegantly sculptured for shrubs and flowers, each thirty-two feet square.

In the first division, before passing under the arch of the terrace abutment, we observed, growing most luxuriantly,

^{*} The great cascade was designed and executed about a century ago, by a French engineer of the name of Grillet. The Willow, which is of copper, was made by a Mr. Bower, of Chesterfield. These water-works are supplied by an immense reservoir, situated on the top of the hill, and from thence brought down in pipes to the several points of exit.

the British Oak, planted by the Princess Victoria (now our most gracious Queen) in 1832. May it be a type of a long and blissful reign! Also an American Chestnut, planted by her royal highness the Duchess of Kent. Here also is the Sycamore planted by his royal highness Prince Albert (December the 2nd, 1843), on the memorable visit of her Majesty and the Prince to Chatsworth.

We have yet to name the Spanish Chesnut, planted in the pleasure grounds by the Emperor Nicholas; and a variegated Sycamore, planted by his brother the Grand Duke Michael, in commemoration of their visit to Chatsworth in

1818.

In the centre of the garden is a circular basin, with the fourth jet d'eau, always at play when his Grace is at home, and which is directly opposite the Duke's private rooms, of which we have as yet said nothing. They are full of

choice paintings, vases, rare minerals, and fossils.*

The Duke has three remarkably fine rooms to the left of the grand West Entrance Hall, as we enter from the corridor, which consists of his Grace's dining-room, sitting-room, and ante-room. All these have been superbly fitted up within the last few years. The ante-room is covered with embossed leather of a choice and elaborate description. centre boss, which is a pendant circle, or cone, ornamented with figures, and richly guilt, is very fine. The sitting-room is fitted up with great taste, and is really a beautiful room. This contains the Duke's private collection of books, the divisions of which (if we rightly remember) are formed into elegant pilasters, filled in with beautiful arabesque work and covered with plate-glass; these reach from the plinthing of the room to the top. The doors flanked and filled in, in a similar manner, so that a stranger, when once shut in, can see no outlet. The ceiling is equally enriched; one magnificent pier-glass reaches from the bottom to the top of the lofty room, in which appears to be set, the fine marble mantelpiece, with enriched accompaniments, which has a glorious effect. The whole is unique. The dining-room is fitted up

The natural Curiosities in Chatsworth are invaluable: as the Cabinet of Fossils and Minerals collected by the late Duchess of Devonshire—and those collected by the present Duke, include both Derbyshire and Foreign specimens. There is a unique and rare specimen of Derbyshire green Arragonite, a splendid Crystal of Quartz, and a fine white Arragonite (Stalactites), with a few others in the State Rooms. The whole of the fine collection of minerals have been re-arranged and named by Professor Tennant, of London.

in a plainer style, but with great elegance. The Duke's breakfast-room is on the other side of the entrance hall, next to the chapel; it contains many admirable portraits, choice vases, antique and modern objects of vertu, the minerals, &c.

On the same basement story (south front), to the east side of the chapel, is a remarkable room, called the oak room, centre supported by twisted columns. The room is wainscoted all round with enriched panelled carvings, with brackets and carved heads on them, and the whole furnished "en suite." These are all strictly private rooms, and not shown to the public; but we felt it altogether impossible to pass them over in silence.

Our guide now led us along by a highly ornamented wall, dividing the Terrace from the Entrance Court; enriched with niches, figures, vases, stone tables, and a handsome balustrade, all elegantly sculptured in the same stone as the gateways are built of, through the western one of which we were issued again into the Park, to make our way to the Inn, after spending more than two hours, which seemed but a few minutes, so highly gratified were we; and so imperceptibly did time steal away, in the centemplation of such an assemblage of beautiful and magnificent objects, as perhaps is nowhere to be met with in the kingdom but at Chatsworth.

BRIEF HISTORY OF CHATSWORTH.

As it may not be altogether unacceptable to the general reader, we shall now present him with a rapid and brief outline of the history of this princely Mansion, so that while he dwells with pleasure on its present magnitude, costly decorations, and extensive domains, he may be equally interested in tracing a few details by which it attained its high reputation and renown, and which led a recent writer to speak of it in the following terms:—" Chatsworth is one of the few seats in this country which deserves the name of a Palace: but neither of the abodes of the sovereign (Windsor excepted) approaches Chatsworth in extent, completeness, or splendour.—It is popularly called one of the seven wonders of the Peak; and in art, occupies a similar position to that claimed by the other curiosities of the district in the kingdom of nature."

ANCIENT STATE.

The splendid domain of Chatsworth forms the greater part of the extra-parochial hamlet of the same name in the parishes of Edensor and Bakewell, in the hundred of the High Peak. It is distant from London 152 miles—from Derby, 26—Matlock, 10—Bakewell, 4—Buxton, 14—Chesterfield, 9—

Sheffield, 14—Castleton, 14—and Manchester 40.

The Manor, at the Norman Survey, belonged to the Crown, and was in the custody of William de Peverill, who is said to have distinguished himself at the battle of Hastings; for which he received a liberal grant of land in Hertfordshire and other counties, as well as in this neighbourhood, where he built himself a fortress, to this day called the "Castle of the Peak." The original name of the ancestors of this ancient House of Cavendish was that of De Gernon, which sufficiently marks it as being of Norman origin. But our limits forbid us from entering into a minute detail of the facts connected with this illustrious family, which has been distinguished for its noble bearing, liberal sentiments, and patriotic efforts, throughout a long line of ancestry.

"Chatsworth is written in the Doomsday Survey, Chetesvorde; it would have been more properly," observes Lysons, "Chetelsvorde, as no doubt it took its name from Chetel, one of its Saxon owners mentioned in that Survey;—William Peverel held it for the King when the Survey was taken."

Chatsworth was for many generations the property of a family named Leche. By one of this family (Francis Luke) the estate was sold in the sixteenth century to the family of Agard, of whom it was purchased by Sir William Cavendish; since which it has been the chief country seat of the

noble family of Cavendish.*

The original Chatsworth House was on a small scale, compared with that begun by Sir William Cavendish, and subsequently completed by his widow (well known as the celebrated Countess of Shrewsbury), in a style which entitles it to be ranked amongst the wonders of the Peak. This remarkable Lady, who was the daughter of John of Hardwicke, built three of the most elegant seats that were ever raised at the expense of one family within the same county—namely, Hardwicke, Old Cotes, and the noble Mansion in question; and these were all transmitted entire to the first

^{*} See Lysons, vol. v. pp. 14 and 17.

Duke of Devonshire. The Countess, by her great abilities, and marriages after the death of Sir William Cavendish, first, to Sir William St. Lo, then to George, Earl of Shrewsbury (at that time one of the greatest Peers of this Realm), secured a princely fortune to this noble family. Surviving the Earl, she employed herself in building the mansions already named, but especially Chatsworth. Its earliest celebrity had a melancholy interest, it being one of the many prisons of the ill-fated Mary Queen of Scots, who resided here for some months in 1570, and was here also in the years 1573-77-78 and '81. The house of this period was a quadrangular building, with turrets. It shared the fate of many other stately mansions in the civil wars of the Parliament and Charles I.; being by turns occupied as a fortress,

first by one party and then by the other.

These were indeed times of peril, converting the seat of hospitality into a focus of every bad passion, and setting up the standard of war amidst the scenes of peaceful nature. Such is but an epitome of its fortunes; and such are the effects of war wherever it exists; men are too easily cheated by its display; by the renown attached to warlike deeds, into the belief that discord on the large scale (for it is nothing else) is admissible; is justifiable in the general affairs of men, and therefore are they too easily betrayed into it. But we have reason to be thankful that, with the exception of one or two instances, our peaceful hearths have not been intruded upon by intestine commotion, or foreign aggression, since this period. Happily for the world, statesmen are beginning to see the necessity of cultivating and extending a peaceful system: and we trust the time will speedily come when the chivalrous spirit of man will be directed solely to feats of rational and intellectual glory, and its loftiest ambition sought to be gratified by propagating and extending the sphere of a sublime benevolence, until it encircles the world.

But to proceed with the history of Chatsworth; we find in 1643 it was garrisoned by forces under Sir John Gell, on the part of the Parliament; and in December of the same year, the Earl of Newcastle having taken the manor of Wingfield, attacked and also made himself master of Chatsworth Hall, placing a garrison in it on the part of the King, under the command of Colonel Eyre; in September, 1645, it was held for the Royal party by Colonel Chalcross, with a fresh garrison from Welbeck, and a skirmishing force of

three hundred horse. It was then besieged by a Major Mollanus with four hundred foot, but the siege was raised by the command of Colonel Gell, who ordered the Major and his forces to return to Derby. Thus Chatsworth was unfortunately distinguished in the civil wars of that day.

We shall pass over the intervening period between these times of civil contention to those when James II. ascended the throne, as not particularly marked with any incident of importance concerning Chatsworth. When the decided predilection of this unwise King manifested itself in a weak attempt to re-establish the Roman Catholic religion, the fourth Earl (afterwards the first Duke of Devonshire) particularly incurred the displeasure of this monarch by advocating the necessity of passing the bill of exclusion; -his retirement from taking any part in public affairs was the consequence. During this time of leisure, until his Lordship's attention was again called to the great political events of the revolution, he employed himself by consulting the great architects of that day, and examining their various plans for the magnificent edifice of the great quadrangle of modern Chatsworth; exemplifying a refined taste by devising and collecting ornaments for that beautiful structure. It appears from the auditors' and artists' account-books, which are still preserved, that the first part of these extensive alterations (the south front) were commenced about the year 1687. Kennet has the following observations, which we shall quote verbatim :-

"The Duke contracted with workmen to pull down the south side of the good old seat, and to re-build it on a plan he gave to them, for a front to his gardens, so fair and august, that it looked like a model only of what might be done in after ages. When he had finished this part he meant to go no further; till seeing public affairs in a happier settlement, for a testimony of ease and joy, he undertook the east side of the quadrangle, and raised it entirely new, in conformity with the south, and seemed then content to say, that he had gone half way through, and would leave the rest for his heir. In this resolution he stopped about seven years, and then re-assumed courage, and began to lay the foundation for two other sides, to complete the noble square; and these last, as far as uniformity admits, do exceed the others, by a vast front of most excellent strength and elegance, and a capital on the north side, that is of singular ornament and

service; and though such a vast pile (of materials entirely new) required a prodigious expense, yet the building was his least charge, if regard be had to his gardens, water-works, statues, pictures, and other things, the finest pieces of art and of nature that could be produced at home or abroad."

Before quitting this part of the subject we cannot help introducing the following observations, which happily illustrate the character of this truly great man, and to whom the present Duke, the noble possessor of this splendid domain, in many respects resembles: who does not remember his firmness and decision in the case of the Reform Bill? And his truly enlightened and liberal sentiments, his great taste and magnificence, are the theme of every one who has heard of, or has the felicity to know, his Grace of Devonshire.

"Soon after the accession of William III. and his Queen, in 1689, his Lordship was admitted into the Privy Council, and made Lord Steward of the household. He was also appointed Lord Lieutenant of Derbyshire, and created Knight of the Garter. It reflects the highest honour on his memory, that while he displayed an abhorrence of Popery. he was too conscientious a friend to religious liberty to entertain the most distant idea of persecution; and he sometimes fearlessly reminded King William, that he came over, not to persecute the Papists, but to defend the Protestants. The Earl attended King William to the Congress of the princes of Germany, held at the Hague, in January, 1690, and was in the shallop or royal yacht with him, when he and all his attendants where in the most imminent danger of perishing. When the Congress met, few of the sovereign princes who assisted at his deliberations, equalled the Earl in the magnificence of his furniture and plate, and the splendour of his entertainments. In May, 1694, his Lordship was created Marquiss of Hartington and Duke of Devonshire.

"After an active political life, spent in promoting the civil and religious liberties of the country, this patriotic nobleman expired at Devonshire House, London, in the 67th year of his age, in 1707. His Grace united to a liberal mind, great political foresight, and was considered a wise and resolute statesman. He possessed an elegant and discriminating taste, which he had much enriched by observation and reading. Chatsworth remains as a monument of his love of the fine arts, and the Revolution of 1688 is an historical proof of his ardent attachment to the liberties of his country."

William Talman, an architect of considerable talent, contracted for all, or the greater part, of the costly alterations at Chatsworth House, in the execution of which he has exhibited a specimen of superior ability in his profession. The great hall and staircase were covered in about the middle of April, 1690. In May, 1692, the works were surveyed by Sir Christopher Wren, who is supposed by many to have built two of the fronts of Chatsworth. It appears that upwards of £9000, had been expended at this period. In 1700, the east front and north-east corner were finished, and in the same year the old west front was pulled down. The whole of the building was completed soon after the year 1706. Thus a period of about twenty years had elapsed from its commencement to its completion. Mr. Talman received upwards of £13,000. for his contract, which appears to be but a small sum for such a stupendous structure, providing he really contracted for the entire alterations, but which sum seems to negative the assumption that he did, and therefore the supposition of Sir Christopher, the builder of St. Paul's, having executed two wings, may be correct.*

From this time, Chatsworth seems (with the exception of the great stables, built about eighty years ago) to have remained without any material alteration till the present Duke assumed the title—a period of about a hundred and five years. The accession of his Grace to the dukedom will form a new era in the history of Chatsworth; for however splendid and worthy of notice its ancient state may have been that splendour is reduced below par, when compared with the extent, magnificence, and beauty of Chatsworth in the nineteenth century, which, as it has been observed at the outset of this brief sketch, entitles it to the proud distinction of a Palace, and a Palace too of unusual enrichment.

However certain parties may object to the whole of the addition having taken place on the north, without any corresponding one to the south, yet the simplicity and chasteness of the design, the beauty of its elevation, and execution as a whole, and the unparalleled suite of rooms which has been obtained by it, speak powerfully as to the abilities of the

^{*} The parties employed to rear and ornament this fine structure, were Talman and Sir Christopher Wren, architects. Laguerre, Ricard, Verrio, Lewis Charon, and Sir James Thornhill, painters. Cibber, Lanscroon, Monsieur Neduald, and S. Watson, were employed as carvers in stone, and Grinling Gibbons and Watson, assisted by Davies and Lobb, executed the beautiful wood carvings in Chatsworth House.

architect* who planned, and the taste and magnificence of the sixth Duke of Devonshire, who suggested this noble addition: for hereby all this internal splendour and enrichment has been obtained without sacrificing or encroaching upon the great beauty of the grounds to the south, which ought not to be overlooked in circumstances of this kind. And the way in which all the domestic offices, extensive as they must be in such a princely establishment, have been arranged and screened from external observation, without in any measure deteriorating from the grandeur of the structure, must excite the admiration of every one. The oldest part is in the Ionic style of architecture; and the original design consists of an immense quadrangle, with two principal fronts; the south, one hundred and eighty-three feet in length, enriched with Ionic pilasters, resting on a rustic base; and the west front, one hundred and seventy-two feet, with similar enrichments, and a pediment supported by four beautiful Ionic columns. The north and east sides, in general style and richness of ornament, correspond with the other two. The roof is flat, and crowned with a balustrade, surmounted with urns, bell vases, and statues. But notwithstanding the beauty of this part of the House, its situation was not altogether free from objection; as Mr. Loudon observes, it was "not situated on a platform of adequate size: a square pile of building in such a situation is less suitable than a lengthy one." This objection has been entirely removed by the erection of the north wing, which must have been contemplated by his Grace, and the eminent architect who planned it; and this may be another reason why the whole of the structure was designed on one side to obtain this fine extension; whatever may have been the original object, Chatsworth has a bold, magnificent, and splendid appearance, especially from the north.

The whole of the north wing has been erected since the year 1820. The Dining-room was completed in 1832, a few days prior to the memorable visit of our youthful Sovereign, already noticed.† The sculpture Gallery was finished soon after, and now the whole suite may be said to be finished. Since the above period, his Grace has made many

+ Page 133.

^{*} Sir Jeffery Wyatville was the architect employed, and his beautiful designs have been executed in a masterly manner by Mr. Holmes, the Clerk of the Works, who left Windsor, on purpose to superintend the building at Chatsworth.

important alterations, both internally and externally, of the great Quadrangle; the more recent of which the new breakfast-room, tea-rooms, and lobby, opening on the east front, are now completed, already glanced at in our observations on the Drawing-rooms.

THE QUEEN'S VISIT.

We cannot omit alluding to the visit of the Sovereign and her Consort to Chatsworth, which excited, as might have been expected, the most extraordinary interest. From the moment the Royal intention became known, men of all ranks turned their eyes in the direction of that princely palace, which has long been, and is still, the glory of this county, and which has yet to be surpassed in any part of the empire. The idea of appropriateness seemed to strike every mind—appropriateness between the Sovereign and the mansion, whose stately halls were to be thrown open for her reception—between the high-minded Queen, and the magnificent Nobleman, who was to be honoured with the distinction of being her host. And we had the pleasure of

witnessing what is here stated.

"If there be anywhere in Britain a spot not yet in the occupation of royalty, which seems marked out by nature, and by all the splendour and refinements of art, to invite a royal sojourn, it is Chatsworth. It is associated with striking events in the national history, and it has long been the residence of a race, distinguished by a lofty patriotism, a generous philanthropy, a comprehension and liberality in the erection and assembling of the monuments of genius and taste-of which there are, and can be, few examples. There is one fact which must ever associate Chatsworth, not only with strong local-but, we may add, with national feeling. It is not its antiquity, being the residence of a long-descended line of high-born and honourable names, or being the scene of military conflict in troublous times; it is not the mingled grandeur and loveliness of its scenery, its superb architectural glories, its invaluable collections of literature, science and art, nor even its being for a time, the dwelling place, or rather the prison, of a lovely and brilliant, but most unhappy Queen; but it is its association with the memory of the first Duke of Devonshire, which draws and binds to it, the recollections of succeeding times. We have already given a sketch in the history of the life and character of this nobleman, to whom the epithet great, may be truly applied. And from what we have said of the present Duke, it will be seen in how many respects his Grace re-

sembles that distinguished nobleman.

" December 1st, 1843, to the great joy of the inhabitants of the loyal county of Derby, her majesty the Queen, and his royal highness Prince Albert, arrived at the Palace of the munificent Duke of Devonshire. Never did princess live who reigned paramount in so many hearts, and we challenge for our own county, if not the palm of loyalty, a first rank in hearty love, and gallant devotion to the sovereign. venture to say there is not one in this unrivalled region, from the mountain summit to the quiet and delicious vale-from the superb Chatsworth to the cottage, whose grateful and contented inmates live under the beneficent protection of its lord, but beat quicker in consequence of the royal visit. Loyalty is ingenious even in its warm and spontaneous impulses, in devising new forms of expressions, and we can state what has been already partially fulfilled-that nothing will be omitted which may do honour to the 'Ocean Queen.' The wild hills on her approach seemed to echo her name, and the invocations which ascended on her behalf, while sweeping along the waters of our peerless streams the sounds of joyous welcome, will doubtless visit many a distant homestead, and every delighted spectator who has the happiness to see his Queen, marked as an epoch in his history, the royal visit to the 'Palace of the Peak.'

There is one feature in the character of the Duke of Devonshire, which deserves, and has ever had our warmest admiration—we mean the graceful ease with which he wears his honours and employs his vast revenues. His bearing removes the offence, which our jealous and irritable nature takes at the superior advantages of our fellow men. It is scarcely possible to envy him, and we really believe there is hardly a man in Derhyshire, who looks with bitterness on the noble halls of Chatsworth, or would wish his Grace shorn of a single honour, or deprived of an aere of his territory. All men are certain that the stewardship, for such is all possession under the rule of the universal Lord, is safely lodged in the hands of one who feels, and seriously

considers, the responsibility of rank and wealth.

"When such views are entertained and seen in consistent practice, as in the case of his Grace of Devonshire, by the

noble and the great, the influence on the less fortunate is benign and soothing. The scope for the indulgence of evil passions is narrowed, the gradations of society are softened easily down, and men are glad to be relieved from the asperities of feeling, which haughty and selfish wealth is too apt to occasion. Her Majesty, to whom our first regards are due, seems, even at her comparatively early age, to understand the benevolent philosophy which derives enjoyment from nearer connexion with the subjects she is happily-we use the word emphatically-called by the 'Prince of the kings of the earth' to govern. Her's is no cold seclusion. Her pleasures are social, and her sweetest, we doubt not, are in the smiles, and cordial greetings of her loving subjects. She delights to see those honours enjoyed of which she is the fountain; while as an honoured guest, she graciously accepts the hospitality of those who wear them. Conscious of her own singleness and integrity, and inheriting the known courage of her race, she passes the sea, and places herself confidingly in the hands of a foreign Prince, and of a people, who have ever been deemed (shame to both countries that it should have been so!) the hereditary enemies of her throne and people. Her conduct is right Long may she live to give such an example to princes!" We quote the following stanzas, a part of what was published on the occasion, and written expressly for the "Derby Reporter."

The Halls of Charsworth sound with joy, Responsive echoes ring;
The royal banner floats on high,
The blithesome minstrels sing;
The hoary mountains fling the strains,
Each giant pass between;
Till undulating thro' the plains,
They hail the Ocean Queen.

The princely Cavendish whose hand,
Ne'er waved away the poor;
In gallant fealty takes his stand,
Uncovered at his door.
The daughter of a hundred Kings,
Bedecked in Royal sheen,
He bending greets—while thousand strings,
Welcome the Ocean Queen.

Fair scion of an ancient race, Our heart's deep prayer we tell; Long may thy royal Consort grace, The throne thou fill'st so well! No pompous annals need record, This day's resplendent scene, While loyal mem'ries richly stored, Cherish the Ocean Queen.

It would be impossible in our limited space to describe the splendid scenes which we witnessed internally and externally of this magnificent mansion. All that unbounded wealth could procure, and all that refined taste could effect, was brought to bear, to beautify and adorn Chatsworth on this auspicious occasion. And while his Grace seemed to exert himself to the utmost to please his Royal visitors, he appeared not less solicitous to gratify the thousands upon thousands who flocked from all parts to give their beloved Queen a joyous welcome. We not only beheld the costly and splendid banquet prepared, and magnificent ball which followed within, (when all the elite of the county were congregated to pay homage to their Queen and her noble host) but we saw fire-works and scenes of surpassing beauty and brilliancy without, that could be witnessed by the assembled multitude. Not only the pleasure grounds but the whole forest itself, even to the top of the lofty cliff, seemed to be in a blaze of light, disclosing the entire range of waterworks in full play, and illuminating the extensive pools of water which multiplied the brilliant objects around a thousand fold. And none can forget, who had the privilege to see the magnificent conservatory lit up with thousands of variegated lamps.*

Of the interior we know not how to speak. When we passed through that noble suite of rooms previous to the banquet, and then, saw them thrown open throughout their entire length, on the approach of the Queen to the grand ball led by his Grace, on whose arm she leaned, followed by Prince Albert leading Lady Louisa Cavendish; accompanied by the Duke of Wellington and other distinguished guests. The powerful band stationed in the great dining gallery struck up the National Anthem, answered by the quadrille band in the ball-room; and surrounded as we then were by a constellation of such beauties in nature and art, as

^{*} It is said ten thousand people were allowed to visit the Conservatory by ticket, after the Queen had left the grounds. The vast forest was lit by many thousands of Russian flambeaux attached to the trees, and placed on stages to enlighten the pools. Trains of ignited matter were also laid round the pools to create greater brilliancy. The Conservatory was lit by twenty thousand variegated lamps.

feast the eye and delight the mind, we felt for a moment almost overpowered, and that "ANTHEM" thrilled every nerve, while we breathed a prayer in unison with its theme

for VICTORIA'S happiness.

We simply beg the reader to picture to himself the unrivalled suite of rooms we have noted in our account of the house, filled with all that render them splendid, a fragrance diffused through them from thousands of the choicest plants, magnificent candelabra, sculptures, rich and elegant furniture, and a thousand other beautiful things which the imagination can picture, then will he have some conception of

this magnificent scene.

"While thinking of the pageants of the olden times, as we witnessed the brilliant proceedings of the past, we felt that we were in advance of those gorgeous celebrations in point of propriety as well as time. Every thing was magnificentworthy of the occasion, and of one of the first peers of the first monarchy in the world-but all was in keeping. No childish maskings, or trumpery shows-no mythologic or allegorical absurdities-no grotesque and questionable moralities-none of those, then deemed quaint, but impertinent and vulgar frolics, on which Queens and high-born and noble dames looked with indulgence, and in which, with very doubtful taste, they sometimes took a part. Nothing could be more splendid; but the splendour was dignified; joy more unmixed could hardly have been felt; but it was a rational joy, which was raised to dignity by its being associated in the minds of the spectators and participants, with stability of a long-tried monarchy, resting, and finding its firm foundation, in the convictions of an enlightened and free people.

"It was scarcely possible, when looking on the smiling and happy countenance of the evidently gratified Queen, to avoid a reflection on the different circumstances in which a Queen—and in beauty, grace, sweetness, and majesty, she was "every inch" a Queen—once sojourned in these scenes. Mary of Scotland was a captive, where Victoria of England appeared the "cynosure of neighbouring eyes"—the Queen paramount of ten thousand hearts. Changes had undoubtedly taken place, since the imprisoned Queen made her unwilling sojourn at Chatsworth—but the same rugged mountains, romantic gorges, wild moors, and silvery streams met her eye. Then, as now, the glittering and ever lovely Der-

went poured its streams, like diamonds sparkling in the sunbeams, through the noble domain, and the eye of the royal captive rested on its flood, while the thought of the free, clear rivers of her own mountain land, hung heavily on her heart. In the midst of surrounding hilarity, we felt pensive. There was a forced and melancholy contrast. We rejoiced in the honours paid our Queen, and gloried in her glory; but we could have wept over the evanescence of beauty, the depression of greatness, the rapid departure of all things, from the calm planet above, whose light, then beaming on us, had shed its pale splendour on the altars of the patriarchs, to the shrivelled leaf which had just fallen at our feet. Who can refuse a feeling of regret for Mary, whose life was a romance, and, alas! perhaps not without the darker passages of romantic story. We indulged it freely, because we knew, that the first to entertain, and the last to censure it would be the generous and happier Sovereign, whom all were assembled to honour."

Having extended our remarks to a far greater length than we originally intended, we must bid adieu to Chatsworth for the present, not forgetting however to express our best thanks generally to Mrs. Hastie, and to all parties connected with the house and gardens, for the kindness, urbanity, and attention shown us on all occasions, whenever it has been our lot to visit Chatsworth.

CHATSWORTH KITCHEN GARDENS.

THESE Gardens are about half a mile to the north of the house on the road to Baslow, through the park. They contain many interesting objects which we cannot pass over in our fifth edition without giving something more than a mere passing notice of them.

We have visited them very recently, and have been exceedingly gratified. Here the effect of the style of ridge and furrow roof on green and hot-house plants was first tried before the erection of the grand Conservatory, and found to answer. One of these elegant houses forms the right wing to Mr. Paxton's very pretty Anglo-Italian Villa.—This is a

* We ought here to state, for the sake of parties going north, and who may not be privileged to drive through the park, that they might be set down here, and order the carriage round to meet them at the North Lodge, in Baslow, the walk being a short one.

show house for flowering plants, and exhibits some lovely

specimens, especially forced flowers in early spring. This is converted into a sitting room and kept private during summer. The left wing in the same style is a green-house one hundred feet long, for New Holland and other interesting plants. Here are two fine plants of the Elephant's foot (Testudenaria Elephantipes), beyond doubt the most noble specimens in Europe. The rude divisions in the bark, resembling the back of a tortoise, native of the Cape of Good Hope. There are also some fine plants of Rhododendrons, from the Himalayan mountains in India, and some fine plants from China, Australia, New Zealand, Cape, and other places. These two wings and the villa are situate at the north end of the garden, with a sinuous embankment covered with rhododendrons and other flowering plants in front of them. The whole of this part is exceedingly beautiful. The immense kitchen gardens lie to the south of this part and divided from it by a high wall. Two very broad walks commencing very nearly opposite to each of the wings, extend the entire length of the gardens. These passing under a succession of bold arches formed in the division walls, have a striking effect and furnish some idea of their great magnitude. The whole covers about twelve acres.

The visitor is here led to the Amherstia house, built entirely for the growth of this, the most beautiful tree in the world, and with two exceptions, the only specimen in European gardens. It is called Amherstia Nobilis, and is

considered the finest plant in the Flora of India.

We next proceed to the

VICTORIA REGIA HOUSE,

A new and beautiful structure, the design perfectly unique, and one of Mr. Paxton's own conception, and which has proved to be the germ from whence sprung the magnificent idea of the great building in Hyde Park, as best adapted for the Exhibition of 1851, the design by Mr. Paxton being accepted and approved by the Royal Commissioners for that purpose, instead of their own, after rejecting two hundred and thirty-four designs sent in by the first talent in the world.

This house was erected solely for the growth of this Water Lily (Victoria Regia), which has been justly termed the "Queen of the waters" for a more magnificent flower, when in its expanded beauty, we never saw. Here are also culti-

vated all the truly beautiful aquatics that can be procured. The sacred Pythagorean bean of the Egyptians, (also as highly prized by the Indians and Chinese, the former of which extracts a sort of cotton film from its stem, which is manufactured into tapers for the purpose of lighting up the temples of their gods. The seeds are used extensively by the latter as an article of food, also the creeping underground stem, which in appearance resembles our blanched stems of asparagus, are boiled and eaten by the Chinese.) are also cultivated here in great perfection. There are three species, the beautiful rose, and yellow, and pure white; the flowers of which are truly beautiful and singularly imposing. The building is a short parallelogram of sixty feet by forty-six. The basement story is of gritstone, rusticated, and ascended by a flight of steps. On this is erected a series of cast-iron pillars, surmounted by arches, on the tops of which rests a strong wood frame or plating to carry the roof; this is strengthened and tied together with iron girders, and which supports the roof in the style of ridge and furrow. The spaces between the pillars are filled in with sash bars and glass of the same length, and those spaces between the arches and the plating are each filled with one entire piece of glass. The top of the plating is surmounted by an elegant scroll border as a finish, and which hides the ends of the ridges in the roof. The interior is chiefly occupied with a large circular tank for the Lily, 34 feet in diameter, and the angles are filled with tanks suitable to the structure, in which are many rare specimens of aquatic plants. Mr. Paxton was the first to flower the Victoria Regia. A flower with one of the leaves nearly six feet in diameter, was presented to her Majesty the Queen, on the 9th of November. 1849. This plant, as well as others, is still in vigorous growth. No one ought to omit seeing this elegant house.

The visitors are next conducted to what is termed the old Victoria house. It was here where that beautiful plant first produced its most magnificent flowers in this country, and which was for a time one of the wonders of the world. A

specimen is still grown here.

There are also many other interesting Tropical plants cultivated here, among which we may notice a fine plant of the Coffee tree, 12 feet high, which may be seen in autumn loaded with its useful and interesting berries.

ORCHIDACEOUS HOUSE.

We next proceed to the Orchidaceous house, where will be seen one of the largest collections of these most curious and exquisitely beautiful tribe of plants, in this country. Associated with these will be found some splendid specimens of Pitcher plants, natives of Singapore, India, and other parts of the Tropics, inhabitants of moist places. These singularlooking plants are cultivated here with excellent success, exhibiting all the luxuriance of their native clime. Their beautiful hanging Pitchers on a slender stem from the apex of the leaf, some of them of the most vivid colours and exquisite lacing, renders them objects of great interest. Among the Orchids we may notice some beautiful specimens of the Vande tribe, which puts forth their much admired flowers in May, June, and July, some of them in shape resembling a fox's brush, and the colours truly beautiful. splendid specimens of Dendrobes, with "flowers of all hue," and Phalænopsis, with its noble flowers of the purest white, the Anectochilus setaceus, cultivated for the extreme beauty of its leaves, the ground of which is a rich velvety brown, beautifully veined with gold. This is the handsomest leaf ever discovered, and is a native of Sierra Leone; the Dionece muscipula, or venus fly trap; this plant has the extraordinary power of closing and catching any insect that may alight upon its leaves, hence the fabulous assertion of its feeding upon flies. The Sarracenia purpurca and Drummondii, natives of the swamps of North America, are plants of great interest; the leaves of the former are all pitchers, of an herbaceous habit of growth; the latter has very long upright pitchers, two feet in height; and many other plants equally beautiful, which to give even a passing notice of, would swell our pages far beyond their intended size. This house is a rich treat to the botanical student.

We visited beside two large Pine houses, and Peach houses—one of which contains the finest Royal George peach tree in the kingdom, the branches extending 70 feet in width, and the height 21 feet, and of the most perfect symmetry. Seventy dozen fruit are obtained from it nearly

every year.

There are also two ranges of VINERIES of 240 feet, subdivided (one into eight parts and the other six,) by which means they are enabled to produce grapes the whole year round. Behind one of these is a Mushroom house of a very singular construction; also three pine pits, cucumber house, &c.

We have thus given a slight sketch of these gardens, but we trust it is enough to give the stranger some idea of their deep interest and great extent. His Grace has been at an immense cost to have these, as well as the grand conservatory and pleasure grounds, filled with choice plants from every climate; having sent experienced parties as far as the Himalayas, North and South America, and elsewhere for them-hence Chatsworth gardens form an admirable finishing school for young men, who, after receiving instructions here, frequently go abroad and get into excellent situations. And such is the celebrity of these gardens, grounds, and conservatory, that even foreigners come to receive instructions in the art of horticulture. This is a high compliment to the taste and abilities of J. Paxton, Esq. F.L.S. and H.S., who has had the entire management of this princely establishment for years, and who consequently has contributed much to the fame of these gardens. Mr. Paxton is the Editor of the Magazine of Botany, a work of considerable merit, Pocket Botanical Dictionary, and some other Horticultural works.

One more object of a striking kind we must name before quitting Chatsworth, and that is, THE CYCLOPIAN AQUEDUCT, which, if completed according to present intention, will be one of the most remarkable and gigantic objects about this wonderful place. Several arches are already completed, and the foundations laid for seven more. It is built on the rugged cliff, at a considerable elevation above the water-works, and in an orient line with them; the design is to form a fall of water of about a hundred and forty or a hundred and fifty feet, close upon the first reservoir, so as to form a connecting link with the water-works. The effect must be magnificent when the whole is in action. It is being constructed of the loose blocks of the gritstone which abound on the cliff, and no mortar or tool mark is suffered to appear on the exterior. The elevation of the last arch which was formed is about seventy-nine feet. The four mile walk will take the stranger near to it.

In the State Bed-room there is a striking portrait of the noble owner of Chatsworth, lately done in crayon, within a richly gilt oval frame.

DRIVE TO ASHFORD; OBJECTS OF INTEREST, &c.

Delighted with the visit, we soon reached our Inn, and after obtaining some refreshment, which we found to be of most excellent quality, we proceeded on our tour to Ashford and the head of Monsal Dale, intending to take Bakewell and Haddon in our way home. The road which has been altered and materially improved of late years by his Grace, by which means he has made vast additions to the Park, is

on the ascent from Edensor Inn.

On attaining the elevated ground, the ridges and peaks of the moorland, which were partly hidden by the beautiful knolls of the park, were laid open before us, in all their bleakness, loftiness, and massive outline, skirting the horizon to the east and north for many miles. The crags of the grit are most imposing; having such a gloomy appearance. bare faces and the broken fragments of which, strewed thickly like hailstones on the shelving sides of their elevated escarpments, and in the deep ravines which traverse them, assume a very dark colour by oxydation, owing partly to the decayed moss and heath which covers them. This is particularly the case on each side of the road seen to the eastward, which wends its way under the black crags and over the high moors to Sheffield. Tracing the ridges to the northward, the eye is carried forward to Calver, Middleton Dale, and to the high mountains of the Peak, by Castleton; to the westward, the bold limestone ridge of Longstone Edge, is very striking.

The road divides here; one downwards to the left, takes the traveller to the village of Baslow which is seen below, and of which we shall give an account in our tour to Castleton. The spire of the church is a pretty object, but our road led to the right, over the high ground by Pilsley village, which we soon passed; and in succession, through a beautiful country, we crossed the Sheffield and Bakewell road; then, further on, that leading to Hassop, where Lord Newburgh has a seat about a mile to the right, under Longstone Edge, the grounds stretching to the road side; a cottage or two—one very pretty, belonging to one of the Duke's keepers; then the toll-bar, and a farm to the right; after leaving this the road divides; ours lay to the left. We then soon passed Thornbridge House, on the high ground to the right, near to the village of Longstone, and on our left,

Church Dale House, (Sydney Smithers, esq., Steward to the Duke of Devonshire) and before entering Ashford, on the brow of the hill, looking to the south, stands Ashford Hall, the residence of the Hon. G. H. Cavendish, M. P., for North Derbyshire. From Ashford, taking the road, which is almost opposite to the "Devonshire Arms' Inn," we soon reached Monsal Dale, which we shall now attempt to describe.

CHAPTER IV.

MONSAL DALE.

ITS SITUATION, EXTENT, REMARKS ON ITS BEAUTIFUL SCENERY AND FARM, THE WYE, ASHFORD—MANUFACTURES, MARBLE WORKS, ETC.—BAKEWELL—BATHS, CHURCH, TOMBS OF THE VERNONS, RUTLAND ARMS, FISHING, ETC.

Monsal Dale exhibits all those features of quiet, secluded, and sylvan beauty, which are so highly calculated to draw out and enchant the reflecting mind. It still retains the same artless simplicity and unaffected loveliness of character it did centuries ago. Its meandering stream flowing sweetly amongst and irrigating the beautiful meadows on either side of its course, which being completely shut in and screened from the wintry blast by lofty mountains, seem to possess a continual vernal beauty. These contrasted with the bare acclivities that bound them, thinly covered with hazels and hawthorns, a scanty herbage, and sterile patches of "shingle," or broken fragments tumbled from the heights, occurring at intervals, very much enhance the interest of this incomparable Dale.

The latter is chiefly its character on entering from the Buxton road; accessible only by a rough winding uneven footpath on the left of the stream, now and then leading through the brushwood, which occurs in thick clusters. On advancing considerably into the Dale from this point, we arrive at the rustic bridge, formed of rude pieces of wood, resting on rough piles of stones, through which the Wye ripples and flows most beautifully. A little distance above

this is a small farm house, in one of the most sequestered spots imaginable, calling forth by its very position that class of associations so delightful to the human mind. But if Monsal Dale, approached from the south, be thus affecting to a stranger, who can describe his feelings, when, advancing from Castleton on the descent of Longstone Edge, he is suddenly brought upon the verge of the Dale, and has the whole of its beauty laid instantly before him?—The "Wye," like a silver thread, taking many a mazy turn through its ever-blooming meadows, clustered and enriched with wild flowers, willow, hawthorn, and mountain-ash—the little farm house, the only human habitation within view—groups of cattle and flocks of sheep faring sumptuously on the banks of the lovely stream, enjoying with the tenants of this spot a calm and sweet repose, unruffled by the intrusion of this

world's petty cavils and ever conflicting elements.

All this variety and beauty laid far beneath the eye, bounded right and left by apparently inaccessible mountains, and completely barred in the distance by the lofty moors of Taddington, might induce the beholder to fancy himself transported, as if by magic, to one of the "Oases" of the desert; those luxuriant and verdant spots that are hailed with a shout of triumph by the weary and thirsty traveller, where he can repose under the shade of the palm-tree and feast in peace, quietly reflecting on the fatigues and perils he has encountered-or, if the mood suit him better, he may ramble at will, and with equal pleasure, amongst the arcadias of classic Greece, and fancy he hears the simple minstrelsy of the mountain shepherd—the short but pithy aphorism of the Stoic, inculcating his rigid lessons of patient endurance as the "summum bonum" of human felicity-or the more lofty minded Philosopher with the "ken" of inspiration bursting the thick veil of ignorance which then enveloped a world, and pointing out "the day star" of genuine science, and that "Sun of righteousness" which was soon to dawn on our spiritual hemisphere to illumine a world.* Or, lastly, he may circumscribe his notions to more modern eras, and glance over the beautiful pages of the great Leviathan of Literature in the eighteenth century, and suppose the imaginary dwelling-place of a "Rasselas" actually realized in the lovely Dale before him.

It is said the sublime Socrates declared his belief in the necessity and certainty of a divine Teacher being sent from on high.

APPROACH TO THE DALE.

From the Buxton road, the Dale is entered from the south, and takes a northerly direction for nearly half a mile, then runs eastward about a mile, and again resuming its original course northward, it joins Cressbrook, Litton, and Miller's Dale. At the top of this is the celebrated "Chee Tor," a bold rock, worthy of observation. Had the road to Buxton been taken up these Dales, it would have presented some of the finest scenery, and formed one of the best drives in the world, at the same time avoiding a long and formidable hill. Either point may be gained in a quarter of an hour's drive from Ashford, but the view from the top is decidedly the most enchanting and easily approached; for here the traveller may sit in his carriage and enjoy its almost unexampled loveliness and beauty-and if he should come upon it unexpectedly and unapprised, which he can scarcely fail to do on taking the upper road, all the better, as the effect on the mind is then more powerful and touching.

The author can well remember the first time he saw the Dale from this point, when on passing over Longstone Edge on his road from Castleton, and rapidly descending into the beautiful vale of Ashford, having attained a slight sweep of the road, this fine Dale instantly burst upon the view. A friend who accompanied him at the time, in astonishment exclaimed, "What is this? surely this is a second Paradise!" The sudden transition from barren, sterile moors, bogs, and bleak hills to a view of one of the most lovely and verdant spots in creation, was inconceivably powerful, and might well justify the comparison. But lest we should be considered as overcharging the picture, we shall quote the following remarks from a fair tourist:—

"The Wye," observes this elegant author, "seems to have changed its characteristics under the influence of this sylvan vale, and no longer foams over a rocky channel, or forces its way through narrow defiles, but expands its glossy surface to the smooth banks of the beautiful meadow-land that divide it from the base of the mountain. Two or three rustic dwellings, in perfect harmony with the scene, diversify the level of the valley; they are shaded by the finest ash-trees that grow in Derbyshire, whilst their descendants grace the rising hills in little groups, or single trees, and throw their shadows on the bright green turf from whence they spring;

the mountains rising above them, from which the rocks start in light pinnacles, or rounded turrets; the shining ivy, at all seasons of the year, decking their silver sides with its ever-The river, after having spread itself in beaugreen beauty. tiful expanse, winds eastward out of the Dale, its termination hidden by the projecting headland. Across the broadest part of the river, the very sort of bridge that unites with the features of the scene, communicates with the opposite bank; consisting of large blocks of native marble, tagged together by their own inequalities, through the apertures of which the water glides, blanched by the sun, and polished by the frequent overflow of the rapid stream; their little hollows and insterstices covered with moss of the greenest hue, and the impetuous Wye, even there, in its chosen repose, fretting and bubbling around them, as if to resent its interruption. In the provincialism of the country these stones are called lepping (leaping) stones, thirty-two of which form this rustic The sweet solitude of this valley, this Derbyshire Tempè, has no gloomy abstraction. A fine road leads down the side of the mountain, and continues along the Dale, meeting the course of the river. Few would choose to descend the steep declivity in a carriage, but no one would regret alighting to walk with such objects around. The most seducing quietness pervades the soft domain; the water steals along so gently, that scarcely a murmur meets the ear: the birds select it for their early nests; the lambs sport upon its narrow sheltered meadows; in its bright waters the heavy fleeces of their dams are washed, and upon the banks, one who loves the calm and quiet recreation in which old Isaac Walton most delighted, may there be seen in solitary enjoy. ment. I cannot imagine that any stranger who first surveys the pastoral beauty of Monsal Dale from the heights above its deep yet smiling seclusion, feels not a passing thought, if not a wish, to become its resident; for there the furious passions of mankind, 'the vultures of the mind,' sink to rest, and all the gentler ones are soothed to balmy happiness. There it would seem that hatred should cease its malignity, and pride its folly, and ambition its aspirations; feeling that all it had hitherto considered great, was, when compared with the majesty of nature and the soft joys of rural repose, but little; whilst love would erect its temple in Monsal Dale, and contemplation think down hours to minutes, and mark them all for wisdom."

From Monsal Dale we returned to Ashford, and as it was our purpose to visit the Marble Works, we took the right hand road after descending the hill. Before we reach the village, a good section of the shale is laid bare on the road side, exhibiting innumerable thin plates piled upon each other like regular layers of masonry, the regularity and minuteness of which, where the bank has been cut down, have a striking effect. The shale is very soft, and crumbles to pieces in the fingers when wetted.

ASHFORD

Is a Chapelry in the parish of Bakewell, and is chiefly the property of the Duke of Devonshire. The Hall and the Rookery both belong to his Grace. It contains about seven hundred inhabitants, employed in the cotton manufacture, agriculture, and the

MARBLE WORKS.

We proceeded to examine these old and interesting works -the first of the kind established in this county, which took place in 1748. Mr. Henry Watson, of Bakewell, was the first who possessed these works, and he has the credit of constructing the ingenious mode of sawing and polishing the marble by water-power. The works were conducted some time by the Watsons, the descendants of the celebrated Samuel Watson, who was distinguished by his wood carvings in Chatsworth House. The works subsequently came into the hands of a Mr. Platt, then Mr. Brown of Derby, and the present occupiers are Oldfield and Co. The trade has been considerably increased of late. The sawn slabs and blocks are sent to all parts of the kingdom-and chimney-pieces, monuments, &c., extensively manufactured of the black marble, the rosewood, the grey or entrochi, as well as foreign marbles, all which take a beautiful polish. Here also the Duke of Devonshire had his massive marble door-ways for the new buildings at Chatsworth executed, as well as all the gritstone balustrades and vases for the stairs, walls, battlements, &c., &c., which ornament the new part.

We were exceedingly amused and delighted in beholding the process of sawing, grinding, and polishing the marbles by the massive wooden machines driven by powerful waterwheels. We then proceeded across the Wye (here a turbulent stream) by a plank* to the marble quarry, which is close by the works, where the finest and purest black marble in the world is obtained. The present quarry has a bearing of at least forty feet above it of bad measures, as they are called; the beds are now obliged to be mined to a considerable extent under the hill, instead of being quarried; and the good black consists of nine beds, varying from three to nine inches in thickness, with thin alternate beds of shale and chert, or black Jasper, (Bassanite) sometimes also existing in large nodules.—It is difficult to raise a perfect slab of more than six or seven feet long, and from two to five feet wide. The bearing (as it is called) above the quarry is now so great, that they have been obliged to mine it, and support the roofs by the offal stone and strong posts.

Some of the finest marble ornaments are executed in this village by various workmen, also the most beautiful "Pietra

dura," or inlaid work of all kinds.

There is a good Inn (the Devonshire Arms) where parties may be accommodated with comfortable quarters, and a ready attention is paid to their wants. This house is kept and well conducted by Mrs. Frost. The fishing in the Wye is freely granted to all visitors. Many resort to this delightful village

for this purpose in the summer months.

Having seen all we wished here, our next point was to Bakewell; on leaving we had a good view of Ashford Hall, the seat of the Honourable G. H. Cavendish, M. P., already noticed, and a beautiful peep down the fine sheet of water in front of the Mansion, on attaining the bridge. About a mile and a quarter from Ashford, on the high ridge to the left, opposite the Cotton Mill, the Trap or Toadstone measures are laid bare, which are interesting to the geologist. The Cotton Mill, which gave employment to many of the Bakewell people, is now again, we are glad to say, at work.

On proceeding a few hundred yards more, just before entering Bakewell, to the right above, is the extensive Chert Quarry belonging to the upper measures of the Limestone. Many hundreds of tons of this are annually sent into the Potteries, to be converted in the beautiful porcelain, &c.+—We now reached the fine old Saxon town of Bakewell.

* There is now a good bridge carried across the stream.
† This is a silicious or flinty material, which, when calcined, pulverised, sifted, and repeatedly washed, through all which operation it goes in the Potteries, forms the purest clay in existence.—It is sold at fifteen shillings per ton, delivered at the Railway, Rowsley. The chert often contains

BAKEWELL

is in the Archdeaconry of Derby, and forms one of the largest parishes of Derbyshire, extending from north-west to south-east more than twenty miles, and about eight miles in width; it contains nine chapelries, besides several large hamlets. The town is of high antiquity, being known even to the Romans, who had Baths here, and who occupied the loftiest positions of the Peak, and worked the mines throughout the whole district. The Baths, which still exist, gave the name to the town, derived from the Saxon words Baddecanwell, and Baddecanwyllen. The former is derived from the Saxon term applied to the Baths, and the latter means "Bathing well," now degenerated into "Bakewell." The water is a tepid chalybeate, not exceeding 60° of Fahrenheit.

The Baths have been recently altered and much improved, the Gardens beautified, and an exceedingly tasteful structure, of the stone of the neighbourhood, built in them, for the Bank.

Bakewell has also its Dispensary, Library, and Stationer's shops, (Mr. Goodwin, and Mr. Gratton's), always desirable requisites in a town like Bakewell, of great resort for company. Here is also a tolerable library and newsroom connected with the Bakewell and High Peak Institute, so celebrated by its holding its annual "soiree" at Haddon Hall, by permission of the Duke of Rutland.

It is the principal market town of the High Peak, and from the beauty of its situation, and its central position to all the objects of interest in the Peak of Derbyshire, as well as for the fishing in the Wye, it is visited by numerous parties

during the summer months.

The Rutland Arms, kept by Mrs. Greaves, one of the most extensive and best conducted Inns in the kingdom, proves also a great attraction to this interesting town. This house has recently undergone a complete repair—the rooms being re-furnished in an elegant and tasty manner, and additional conveniences added, so as to promote the comfort and pleasure of the visitors. All parties visiting this Inn and the Baths, which belong to the Duke of Rutland, have free liberty to enjoy the sport of angling in the beautiful Wye. We shall therefore proceed to give a slight sketch of the

Entrochites, and is then called Screw Stone when the entrochite is decayed so as to resemble a screw, that is, the external covering being destroyed leaves only the articulated joints of the stem entire.

FLY FISHING

practised here, as the "Gem of the Peak,"—a guide to that picturesque and romantic country abounding with mountain streams and purling brooks—would be considered far from complete, did we not address a few lines to those lovers of the "gentle art" who compose by no means an insignificant number of its annual visitors. It is the angler who has the best opportunity of contemplating nature in her loveliest forms, whilst in pursuit of the finny tribe, by the margin of their crystal element. Often is Piscator tempted to force his way midst dangers, through the intricacies of the glen, utterly unconscious of the beauties that surround him, until, pausing for a few moments, he casts his eyes for the first time around him, and perceives charms unknown to the less adventurous tourist.

Fly fishing is a pursuit that has been practised and encouraged by many of our most distinguished philosophers and poets—Davy, Chantrey, Scott, Thomson, Wordsworth, and Burns, were all anglers; nor must we omit the names of the immortal Nelson, or our late sovereign George IV., from the list of those who have taken delight in "casting the fly." Sir H. Davy tells us that Dr. Paley was ardently attached to fly fishing, that description of angling which of all others is the most exciting, and which to be practised with success, requires the greatest skill and personal exertion. He says, one day when the Bishop of Durham enquired of the Doctor when one of his most important works would be finished, he said with great simplicity and good humour, "My Lord, I shall work steadily at it, when the fly fishing season is over."

The streams of Derbyshire abound with trout and grayling; the former is found in most of the lakes and rivers of Great Britain, whilst the latter is peculiar to some of our English streams. In the Wye and Dove you find abundance of the Salmo Thymallus, or grayling; this fish is not found in any of the waters of Ireland or Scotland; it is traditionally said to have been introduced into this country by the monks, as most of the rivers where grayling abound are near the remains of some great monastery or religious house.* This fish contributes greatly to the angler's sport, being in the finest

^{*} Meadow-place farm, on the left bank of the Lathkeel was one of these houses. The old chapel is now a barn.

condition in October and November, when trout are out of season; and it further enhances his pleasure, for it is seldom so much out of season as to be considered bad fish.

The Rutland Arms already named, and the Peacock Inn at Rowsley, are both favourite places of resort-(but especially the former)—for gentlemen anglers during the season. river Wye is strictly preserved by his Grace the Duke of Rutland; but permission to angle in the stream may be readily obtained, through the Duke's liberality, at either of the above houses. The first week in June is the favourite time for anglers to muster, and it is not at all unusual to see a score of rods actively employed on the stream within the short space of a few miles, and each sportsman, if the weather is favourable, will bring home a tolerable creel. drake (or May fly) is then on the water, and by fishing carefully with the natural fly, the diligent angler is certain to have his toil amply repaid. The scenery around Bakewell is most imposing, but the walk by the margin of the stream gives perhaps the best opportunity of viewing it to advantage, as it winds close around the base of one of our finest baronial mansions—Haddon Hall.

The river Dove, rich in scenery, abounds with trout and grayling, occasionally affording the angler good sport; but it is not so strictly preserved as the Wye, consequently it is frequently poached, to the great disadvantage of the stranger.

BAKEWELL CHURCH.

This Church which has been recently restored, and much beautified, is in the Gothic style of architecture, and built in the form of a Greek cross. Several styles, indeed, are traceable in its composition; the round Norman, the pointed Gothic, and the more modern perpendicular style. The octagon tower, terminated with a spire in the same form, is a fine object. The church stands on a bold eminence, and is full of interest, containing the tombs of the Vernons' and Manners' families, with the figures rudely sculptured in marble and alabaster; and several other monuments with curious inscriptions, which are well worth a visit. The more ancient part is older than the Conquest; the transepts, tower, and spire, date about the fifteenth century. It is this part which has been renewed in a most beautiful style, equal in execu-



tion to any thing we have ever seen in a Gothic structure. The doorways and windows of the south transept are admirably finished; as are also the rich windows of the north transept. The cost of the restoration exceeded £6,000.

We have only space to name a few particulars respecting the altar-tomb of Sir George Vernon, knight, and his two wives, which is enriched with figures in bas-relief, of ladies holding shields of arms; on it lies the effigy of a knight in plate-armour and surcoat, with straight hair and a long beard, having a double chain about his neck, with an inscription indicating that the body of "Sir George," formerly called the King of the Peak, "lyeth" here. It bears the date of 1561. Near this is the monument of the famous Sir John Manners and his wife, the beautiful Dorothy, the circumstances of whose loves, elopement, and marriage, throw such a romantic interest over Haddon. Sir John died June 4th, 1611, and his Lady long prior to this, in the twenty-sixth year of the reign of Elizabeth, 1584. The font in the church is of great

antiquity. Bakewell is first mentioned in history, shortly after the termination of the Heptarchy.*

There is a fine old Cross in the church-yard, supposed to have been brought from some other place, and seen in the Intaglio Map.

* As it may be a matter of some interest, we subjoin a short account of the disinterment of the Vernon's and Manners' remains:—On the morning of the 6th of October, 1841, the workmen commenced the excavation rendered necessary on account of the new foundations required for the restoration, on the site of the monument of Sir John Manners and Dorothy Vernon, his wife, at the south-east corner of the Newark chapel. Mr. Flockton, the architect, naturally expected to find some lead or stone coffins. Before however the excavation had sunk above a foot, the bones of a young person, supposed to be a son of the couple above named, were found without any coffin, or the traces of one. The next disclosure was of traces of wooden coffins, surrounding the remains of two full grown persons, believed from their situation under the monument to be those of the celebrated Sir John Manners and the far-famed Dorothy Vernon. The head of the female was still covered with hair, cut short on the forehead, but long behind, extremely friable, remarkably soft, and of a beautiful auburn colour; and in it were found six brass pins, almost exactly resembling those commonly now in use, except that the pointing was more perfect. The workmen now dug northward, and presently discovered a circular jar, glazed inside, and containing lime and a small quantity of ashes; probably the viscera of some one who had been embowelled previous to interment. Passing by the lead coffin of an infant, and those of two children, the excavators next raised some skeletons, which, from their situation under the tomb, were believed to be the remains of Sir George Vernon and his two wives; there were likewise found here other sets of reliquæ, supposed to be of members of the Vernon family ;-the cranium of the first mentioned, supposed to be the head of Sir George Vernon, the father of Dorothy, and the last male of the race, was de-scribed by Mr. Flockton as "magnificent." On approaching the fine monument of Sir George Manners and his family, a large lead coffin was found, the lid of which, from the head to the breast, the excavators were surprised to find had been ripped off, as with the sexton's spade rather than the plumber's knife; but on examining the bones, it was evident that not only had the body been withdrawn and afterwards crammed hastily into the coffin again, but that the skull had been sawn through in the cross direction of its vertical axis, probably, as Mr. Flockton conjectures, for some purpose of clandestine surgical examination. This head might have been that of a wife or daughter of Sir John Manners. The only remaining exhumation of importance was that of Sir Thomas de Wensley, who fell in the battle of Shrewsbury, fought between Henry IV. and the celebrated Hotspur, A.D. 1402, and whose effigies lay in a niche over the grave.

Two pairs of very primitive spectacles were found—one pair under the belfry stairs, and the other amongst the dead. Also an ancient tobacco pipe head was found in one of the coffins. There were several very interesting coins found amongst the ruins; and in the Vernon vaults a tusk, a ring like a wedding ring, strongly gilt, a gold seal (the stone of which was wanting), the upper part formed of two cornucopias, and the head of a pipe of fine clay, of antique form, ornamented round the upper part. One of the skeletons found had a thigh bone measuring no less

than twenty-one inches in length.

The marble works here are excellent, belonging to the Duke of Rutland, and occupied by Mr. Lomas. From the marble quarry in the neighbourhood some of the finest black marble is obtained, which possesses a superior degree of hardness and durability to most others. Mr. Woodruff has a very handsome shop here, of spar and marble goods, near to the Rutland Arms. His inlaid work, which he executes with his own hand, is of the first order; and he had the honour of receiving the Prince Albert's commands to inlay two splendid slabs as per pattern sent to be done for the Great Exhibition of 1851. We saw these fine things.

Every comfort and the best accommodation may be had at Bakewell by the traveller; many good shops, besides the Bank and the Libraries, which we have already named, exist

for the benefit of its inhabitants and the stranger.

Bakewell is 2 miles from Haddon, 4 from Chatsworth, 16 from Sheffield, 16 from Castleton (via Middleton Dale), 12 from Buxton, 10 from Matlock, and 152 from London.

The late Mr. White Watson, F.L.S., for many years was in possession of the Baths, and the pretty grounds and walks adjoining, which are close by the Rutland Arms. This gentleman had collected a great many fossils and minerals peculiar to Derbyshire, which were scientifically arranged, and highly illustrative of the geological character of the county. We understand these have been purchased since his death, principally by one gentleman in the neighbourhood.

The fields about Bakewell and Over Haddon were formerly one continued dreary waste, but now they present a scene of rich enclosures, interspersed with wide spreading plantations belonging to the Duke of Rutland. A great part of the subsoil in the valley is shale, which forms excellent pasture land; it is bounded on the east by Gritstone hills, and on the west by the Limestone measures, which attain their highest elevation to the west and north of Bakewell.

WALKS, RIDES, AND DRIVES.

Before we quit this interesting town, we must point out some of the more striking objects in the immediate neighbourhood.

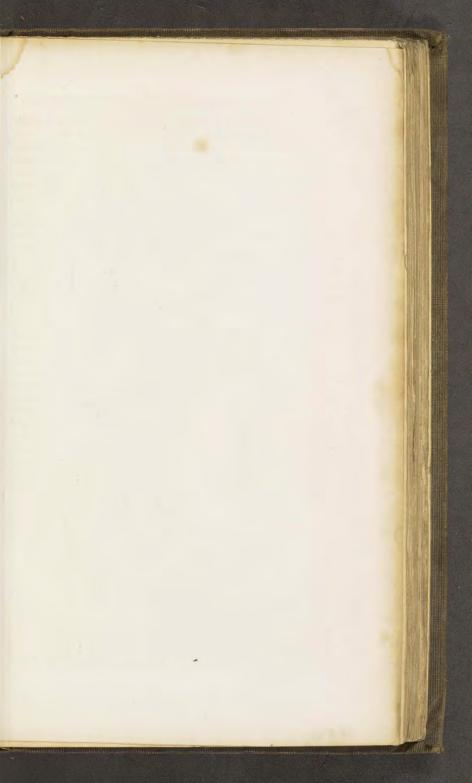
The walks in the fine wood of Bakewell Edge, and thence to Ball Cross, Roman Encampment, and so to Edensor, if a party wishes, will furnish a day of pleasure to any one. Another drive to Over Haddon and the beautiful valley of the Lathkiel, and so on to Youlgrave and Allport, and so home by Haddon Hall, is a nice drive. Next, a drive to Monsal Dale through Ashford, and on to Cressbrook, is exceedingly fine; also Middleton Dale by Hassop, and return by Baslow, Chatsworth, and Haddon, are amply referred to, and need no comment. Many interesting walks might be taken by parties staying at Bakewell.

From hence we proceeded to Haddon, over a dead flat piece of ground, which is relieved by an eminence just before reaching the gate leading over the pastures to Haddon. Here the fine old Hall comes into view. About three quarters of a mile out of Bakewell we observed a beautiful Gothic structure on a commanding eminence to the right, the

residence of John Allcard, Esq.,

BURTON CLOSES,

who has spared no expense to make it complete. We understand Mr. Paxton designed the building and the laying out of the grounds, and Mr. Pugin had a "carte blanche" to arrange and decorate the interior, and we must add, from our own observation in passing over it, that it bears ample evidence of his fine and exquisite style; its decorated ceilings, finely ornamented walls, oaken screen work in the lobby, hall, staircase, and gallery, are in exquisite taste and keeping. The whole is furnished "en suite," and contains pictures and objects of art and vertu. It is not a show house, but Mr. Allcard is so liberal as not to refuse the Bakewell visitors to view it on application. It is a gem of its kind. Still further on there is a good house, the residence of John Harrison, Esq. The lovely Wye in this flat vale takes many a circuitous route, and is said to travel more than double the actual distance between Haddon and Bakewell.





HADDON HALL.

"On Haddon's Bank, as the fisherman strays, When the clear cold eve's declining, He sees the Towers of other days In the Wye beneath him shining,"

CHAPTER V.

APPROACH TO HADDON, PRELIMINARY REMARKS, ITS PAST AND PRESENT STATE, ENTRANCE TOWER, FIRST QUADRANGLE, EXTERIOR OF HADDON, EAGLE TOWER, VIEW FROM DITTO, LINES FROM THE BIJOU, HISTORY OF HADDON, PRINCE RUPERT'S AND DOROTHY VERNON'S ROOMS, ROWSLEY INN, RETURN TO MATLOCK, ETC.

THE sun was fast declining in the "far west" when we attained the eminence near Haddon. This relic of a by-gone age, with its weather-beaten towers and battlements, we observed peering from amidst the thick foliage, its numerous turrets and windows gleaming in the sun-light; and being in part strongly shaded by its umbrageous envelope, it presented a fine object for the pencil. The situation of Haddon is pre-eminently beautiful. It stands on a shelving, and rather elevated mass of the first limestone, overlooking the entire dale and its meandering and lovely Wye, backed by extensive woods and surrounded by majestic trees. At first sight it has more the appearance of an old fortress than what it really is, a Hall chiefly in the Elizabethan style, and without any effectual defences, as we shall show by the following remarks, which we beg to make while we contemplate this interesting structure—a structure which assisted the imagination of Mrs. Radcliffe in its wildest flights, when writing the "Mysteries of Udolpho."

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS; ANCIENT STATE OF SOCIETY, ETC.

Haddon is decidedly one of the finest specimens of a Hall of the olden time in existence. The old Tower, with narrow loop-holes and gloomy uncomfortable rooms, is the only part which retains that stern character, the peculiar feature of that iron age when "every man's hand was against his fellow;" that age of darkness and military despotism which succeeded the destruction of the Roman power by the savages of the north. In those times, each successful conqueror parcelled out the nation or territory subdued, into so many mi-

litary "fiefs," held only by virtue of devotion to their Prince, who claimed their services whenever circumstances required. These were again subdivided into smaller portions, to their dependents and retainers, who held their lands upon precisely the same tenure of doing fealty to their lord, and could be called upon at any moment to defend his person and domains from the aggression of a neighbour, or to proceed with him to serve their common chief, either at home or abroad. Europe thus became universally subject to military rule, which gradually softened, and settled down into what is termed the feudal system; a simple modification of this military despotism, with a somewhat less stern aspect, still retaining too much of its form and sanguinary character.* The bulk of the population, under this system, were no better than serfs of the soil, perfectly at the will of their masters, and plunged in the grossest ignorance and superstition. Surely it may be emphatically said of this period, "that darkness covered the earth, and gross darkness the people." This was a time of peril, when caprice, passion, ambition, or avarice, was the order of the day, and when either happened to be in the ascendant, pretexts were not long wanting to make an attack upon a neighbour to gratify a blood-thirsty desire, or accomplish any purpose of conquest or revenge, as the case might be. Can we wonder, therefore, that everywhere sprung up those gloomy, wretched abodes, those castles and fortresses which frown upon the country, surrounded by moats and defended with bastions, draw-bridges, and towers, of immense strength. The times required them. No man felt safe a moment from the inroad of the foe. The old part of Haddon, which has elicited these remarks, is a specimen of the architecture of those times, and it is said to be older than the conquest; but this forms only a small part of (shall we say) modern Haddon. The first great quadrangle, and the three sides of the second, are built in the style of our ancient Halls-"a composite"-a combination of the Gothic and Saxon, without those powerful and gloomy defences, which were not so necessary in more recent times, when men became united, and subject to law, and one common form of government.

Haddon is, therefore, a country seat of a nobleman of the sixteenth century; and, being kept in good repair, and re-

^{*} The small Baronies and Baronial Courts and Manors are still existing relics of these times, only shorn of their power.

taining its ancient honours and character, just as when it was deserted by the family nearly 200 years ago, is a

beautiful specimen of the age to which it belongs.

Its ancient Hall, with the huge oaken, yet not inelegant table; the immense fire-place; the rude music gallery, occupying two sides; the roof and rafters exposed, all perfect, carry us back to the period of its glory; and we have vividly pictured before us the rough, but profuse and generous, hospitality of the times. The glee and the revelry which succeeded, when the prince and the dependant, the master and the menial, dined in the same common hall. Such is Haddon, and such is the kind of impressions produced on visiting its solitary courts. These courts which once rung with the prancing of the steed, the din of the horsemen and of the inmates preparing for the chase, or for some excursion of pleasure, are now silent; or their silence is only relieved by the twit of the wren and the song of the robin, as they hop from pinnacle to pinnacle of its ancient battlements; or by the soft notes of the thrush and the blackbird, echoed from their lofty perch upon its walls. The very tread of the foot comes impressively upon the ear, and the mind is carried back in imagination to the period when a Vernon, who, from his princely establishment, was styled the "King of the Peak," kept his two hundred retainers, and open house for twelve days at Christmas-tide, to all who chose to partake of his generous bounty.

To go over Haddon, wrapped up in such imaginings, and behold its ancient hall, drawing-rooms (hung with arras), oriel windows, ball and state-rooms, kitchens, and other offices, just when the shades of evening are throwing their long shadows over nature, is deeply enchanting; producing impressions not likely to be effaced, even through a long life. But we must conduct the stranger over this fine relic

of antiquity.

On entering the gate, and passing over the bridge, we come to the stables where the horses may be secured while the Hall is seen. From this point the north-west tower stands loftily, and is a remarkably good object. Close by is the old postern gate; under this tower is the great gateway. We are introduced through a small door under the archway, and the first court, which is approached by a flight of angular steps, is presented to us. The effect on a feeling mind on the first view of the interior of Haddon is deep and

powerful, and highly calculated to produce impressions which increase in power and deepen in interest at every step, as the stranger passes through the deserted Hall, until he finds himself elevated on the loftiest battlement of the Eagle Tower, has the whole noble pile beneath his eye, and can range over its beautiful vale, stretching right and left, bounded by the lofty hills of the Peak of Derbyshire. The sudden change from the thoughts of ancient days to a view of sweet nature, clothed in all its loveliness, fills the mind with the most delightful emotions; but we will not dwell on this subject here.

After silently viewing the first quadrangle, both singular and beautiful, with its rude stone steps, antiquated windows, embattled turrets and grey walls, conveying an idea of perfect security, we proceeded to examine the details of this in-

teresting structure.

Our attention was first directed to the hoop of the old mash-tub, of no common dimensions, which seemed to inspire the old man (Hage*), who gloried to tell of the hospitable doings anciently at Haddon Hall—"that none were sent empty away who visited it"—right good English doings certainly. The Porter's Lodge is on the same side, with its old

bedstead. We next visited the

Chaplain's Room, which looks gloomy and uncomfortable, containing relics of the past, such as a pair of immense boots; a buckskin doublet, capable of resisting the thrust of a spear or javelin; a curious matchlock of the earliest construction; pewter plates and dishes, as if intended, from their capacity, to serve giants, instead of men of common stature; the chapel bell and the old cradle, over which many a "lul-la-by" has been sung to quiet and soothe the young scions of this ancient house. The old hearth, with a semicircular stone raised about three inches above the floor to serve as a fender, gives a poor idea of the comfort of those days. We passed a series of offices from hence to the

CHAPEL, at the south-west angle, which is entered through a porch with a pointed archway. In this stands the old stoup or basin, which contained the holy water. The Chapel, which has a body and two aisles, is considered to be very ancient,

This old man, who showed the house for many years, is dead sometime ago, and it is now shown by Mrs. or Miss Bath, whose Cottage below is beautifully fitted up in the olden style. Mr. Bath has carved much of this himself, as well as other things for Belvoir Castle.

but it is of small dimensions.—This and the Great Hall belong to the most ancient parts, having been built before 1452.* The pulpit and reading desk are on the left. high pews, which are of oak, and were originally richly gilt, occupy the chief part of the chapel on each side as we proceed to the Altar or Communion Table. Over this is a gothic window, with a painting of the Crucifixion on one of the panes, and on others are exhibited figures of saints and angels, and the date of 1427; but these are only fragments of what once existed, the finest specimens having been stolen some years since, and conveyed, as is supposed, to the Continent. One hundred guineas were offered as a reward, at the time, for the discovery of the offender, but without effect. In this window there is the following inscription:-"Orate pro animabus Ricardi Vernon et Benedictæ uxoris ejus, qui fecerunt Anno Dni. Millessimo mccccxxvii."† The south aisle contains the rude seats for the servants, and the plate chest, and an old Norman circular font stands by the Saxon pillar, near the middle. On the roof is the date of 1624, at which time it was renewed by Sir George Manners.

Proceeding across the court from hence, we entered the porch of the Great Hall, in which there is a Roman Altar. This rude piece of antiquity was found in the neighbourhood of Haddon, some centuries ago, and preserved with great care.—On it is the following inscription, which has been very differently copied by different individuals; many of the characters being now quite illegible, we give it from Camden, as being doubtless nearest the true reading:—"DEO MARTI

BRACIACE OSSITTIVE CECILIAN PREFET TRO V.S."

Over the doorway of the porch are two shields of arms; one of them is the coat of the Vernons, (argent a fret, sable) and the other the arms of Fulco de Pembridge, Lord of Tonge, in Shropshire, (barry of six, or et azure) which Sir Richard Vernon (who was Speaker of the House of Commons in 1426) was entitled to in right of his wife, Isabella; this lady being the sole heiress of Sir Fulk de Bembridge. It is

^{*} One of the pillars between the nave and south aisle is very ancient. It is in the massive style, which fell into disuse before the thirteenth century, which indicates, says Lysons, that it was built on the site of a Chapel attached to a more ancient mansion, erected probably by the Avenells. The font in the chapel is in the same style.

Avenells. The font in the chapel is in the same style. + Pray for the souls of Richard Vernon and Benedicta his wife, who made this in the year of our Lord 1427. Lysons gives the quotation somewhat differently.

conjectured by some that Sir Richard* built this part of the edifice, as well as some parts of the chapel, which latter has evidently been built at considerable intervals.—These were probably simple enlargements, to suit the change of time and the increase of the household.

A passage, which unites the upper and lower quadrangles, is separated from the Great Hall by a panelled screen of oak, with Gothic carvings. The Great Hall is on the right of the Porch, having a communication with the Grand Stair-case

and State apartments.

On the left, ranging in a line, are four doorways, with high pointed arches, which severally lead to the kitchen, buttery, wine cellar, and numerous small apartments, that appear to have been used as lodging-rooms for the guests and their retainers. The first still retains an ancient oak door, with a wicket or small opening in the middle, through which every comer that required it, had handed to him a certain quantity of food on a trencher and a cup of ale. The second door communicates with the kitchen, down a dark sloping passage. In this there are two immense fire-places, with irons for a prodigious number of spits; various stoves, great double ranges of dressers, and an enormous chopping-block, "whereon an ox might lie with ease." The larder, pantry, bakehouse, and dairy, are contiguous to this. In the larder there is a large trough, cut out of the bole of a tree, once covered with lead, and which, an entertaining tourist says, is "sufficient to hold meat for a garrison, together with a place like a tun for smaller provisions."

The Great Hall was the original dining apartment. At the upper end stands the old oak table, supported by square carved balusters on four feet or claws, rather elegant.† This is slightly elevated above the floor by a kind of platform or dais, simply to distinguish it as the grand table where the lord and his more privileged guests sat and feasted; while those of inferior rank, retainers, &c., occupied tables ranged on the other two sides of the Hall. A heavy gallery, carved and panelled, ornamented with the antlers of stags, is carried round two sides. This answered as the Music Gallery, as well as a passage to connect the suite of bed-rooms in the north wing with the drawing-rooms in the south. Here is

^{*} See Lysons, page ccxxxviii.

+ This form of Table foot is adopted in the present day.—The four projecting feet are somewhat like an elegant Ionic Bracket.

no ceiling richly gilt, showy and splendid; for the roof and rafters are quite exposed, the fire-place rude and capacious enough for the massive logs of wood used by our ancestors, when coal was scarce or not known; the walls are wainscoted all round to a certain height.

This Hall exhibits a most interesting specimen of the barbarity and rude hospitality of by-gone days, when men studied more the pleasure of the chase, riotous living,* war,

'You're all heartily welcome, lads, drink what you will, For here lives John at the wooden oak still.'



Portrait of John Manners, eighth Earl of Rutland, Composed from Costume still preserved in Haddon Hall, 1938.

and deeds of blood. than the cultivation of any thing great, good, or intellectual. thankfulweshould be to Him who rules the nations. and moulds them at His will: "Who meteth out the heavens with a span, and comprehendeth the dust of the earth in a balance," that He caused the light of His truth to dawn upon Europe, to dissipate the gross darkness in which it was enveloped, to soften down the sternness of that iron age, and change its barbarity and rudeness into the more bland, genand polite manners present day, and to direct the giant

* In this Hall there is a summary method by which they punished petty criminals, as well as those individuals who could not drink the usual quantity, which is strikingly characteristic of those times. To the screen

intellect of man into the undiscovered paths of physical and metaphysical truth.*

The door-way close by the head of the Baron's table leads into a dark passage, which is in part wainscoted off from the Hall, is the outlet to one of the lower terraces, and commu-

nicates with the more modern

DINING-ROOM, supposed to have been fitted up, if not built, by Sir George Vernon, when the customs and manners began to change, and the lord no longer used the great Hall, except on high and festive occasions. The ceiling of this room, which is low and gloomy, is divided into bays, by five beams, once evidently richly gilt, and otherwise ornamented. It is lined with oak panelling; and has a unique and richly carved cornice. This is particularly the case in the recess with the fine oriel window; the frieze of which is adorned with boars' heads, the crest of Vernon, and portraits of Henry VII., and his royal consort. It is said that Prince Arthur, the heir apparent of Henry VII., visited Haddon upon several occasions in the time of Sir Henry Vernon, who was his The singular portrait of "Will Somers," the governor. King's jester, occurs also here. A shield, with the arms quartered of the Avenells, Pipes, Pierreponts, and Vernons,





the initials E. P. of the names of Sir G. Vernon and his lady and the date of 1545, are over the fireplace. We give a specimen of the

carved initials of Sir George. The Royal arms too are carved here, and below them these words;—" Dreve God & honor the Ming." The old fire range, dilapidated chairs, and

on one side of the first door is attached a hasp, made so as to securely enclose a man's wrist when locked, and at such an elevation as to keep his arm in an upright position. When the individual was thus placed, cold water, or all the quantity he ought to drink, was poured down the sleeve of his doublet, which, running down his side, produced the most painful sensetions.

* It is a singular fact that science was never rightly studied nor pursued, and the inductive philosophy was wholly unknown, till after the Reformation and the spread of the Bible. Wherever that blessed book goes, there light, knowledge, and a refined civilization follows rapidly in its wake. Consequently, that which unbelievers attribute solely to the gradual and necessary development of mere unassisted human reason, which, according to their loose views, is destined to attain the zenith of intellectual glory by its own "impetus," is REFERABLE ONLY to the

oval copper cooler, are interesting objects. From hence we proceed to the

Drawing-Room, up the grand staircase, which is constructed of rudely jointed stone steps. This is a much more cheerful room than the one we had just left. The oriel window, which is immediately over the other, is wainscoted, and contains, amongst other things, the



J. Garforth, Derby.

Old State Chair.

The walls of the room are hung with ancient arras, and likewise the

EARL'S DRESSING AND BED-ROOM, with which a door at the upper end of the Drawing-Room on the left communi-

spread of DIVINE TRUTH; and to that high, all-powerful, and spiritual agency with which it is *ever* accompanied; and to which they themselves are really indebted for correct views on many subjects, without *knowing* or acknowledging the quarter from whence they come.

cates. On the arras are represented a variety of field sports* and scriptural subjects, particularly a boar hunt, in which the dogs are singularly covered with a kind of armour or cloths, studded with iron points as a means of defence. This is the only instance I believe in existence, of dogs wearing defensive armour in the chase. In the Dressing-Room we noticed the peculiar construction of the grate set up on Count Rumford's principle, and from which it is said he took his plan to prevent smoky chimneys. Beyond the Earl's Bedroom is the valet's room; a door out of which leads down the stone stairs into the lower court. We again re-enter the Drawing-room, in which there is a portrait of Sir Francis Manners.

Opposite to the Drawing-room at the top of the stairs is the

Long Gallery, or Ball-Room. This is entered by a flight of circular steps, said to be cut out of the root of a single oak which grew in the garden, the bole furnishing sufficient timber to lay the entire floor, which is 109 feet long, by 18 feet wide.

The elevation of the room is 15 feet. The width of the room, which is small, compared with the length, very much detracts from the effect; but for convenience this loss of width is amply compensated by three recesses, with bay windows, the centre one of which is very spacious, being

no less than 15 feet by 12.

The sides of the room are covered with oak panelling, enriched with Corinthian pilasters; over which are arches, and between these are shields of arms of Manners impaling those of Vernon. The frieze is ornamented with carvings of boars' heads (Vernons' crests), peacocks (the crest of Manners), thistles, roses, and other embellishments. In one compartment of the window, in the first bow, appear the arms of the Earl of Rutland impaling Vernon, with its quarterings encircled by the garter. In a compartment of the third bay window are the arms of the Earl of Shrewsbury and the Earl of Rutland, encircled by the garter, and in another, the Royal arms (Prince Arthur's), similarly surrounded, and sur-

^{*} Some of the leading houses in London have sent artists to copy the costumes on the arras, to afford an agreeable and elegant change of dress for the fashionable world. And when the Royal party visited Haddon, from Chatsworth, in 1832, and again in 1843, when the Queen re-visited Chatsworth, the tapestry afforded them much gratification and amusement, especially on observing that the various costumes on it exactly corresponded with some of the dresses of the ladies in the Royal suite.

mounted by a crown. The glass and panes of the windows are curiously bent; but owing to what cause, whether made so in order to give greater strength, or whether occurring from accident is not known. The date of this noble apartment must be subsequent to the time when the property came into the Rutland family.

Over the fire-place is a painting of Tamyris, queen of the Scythians, with the head of Cyrus.* It was truly ludicrous to hear old Hage, the guide, tell the tale of the capture of

that prince and his death.

In a box at the end of the gallery is a cast of the head of Lady Grace Manners, taken shortly after her death. A door near the upper end of the Gallery leads us by a few steps into the

ANTE-CHAMBER. Mr. King, in his observations on ancient castles, supposes this to have been the Earl's private parlour, but for what reason it would be difficult to conjecture, without better authority. Here are the portraits of Queen Elizabeth, Charles I., Prince Rupert, and Eugene, copies from Vandyck; also a picture (swans, &c.,) by Snyder, said to be an original. This room, as well as the succeeding State Bedroom, has a frieze and cornice in rough plaster, adorned with peacocks and boars' heads, in alternate succession. In the

STATE BED-ROOM, which we now entered, there is over the mantel-piece a similar rude plaster cast in bas-relief, of Orpheus charming the beasts, which reflects little credit on the age in which it was executed, for skill or proficiency in this art. This room is spacious and comfortable, with an immense "Oriel," the recess of which is raised about a foot, in which there is an old dressing-table and large French looking-glass, two centuries old, at least. The room is lofty, and the walls hung with tapestry, from the celebrated manufactory of the Gobelins at Paris; but the State Bed is the chief object of interest here; fourteen and a half feet in height and six feet long; the pillars surmounted by a

^{*} This story is given by Lempriere in his Classical Dictionary thus;—After the taking of Babylon, "Cyrus marched against Tamyris, the queen of the Massagetæ, a Scythian nation, and was defeated in a bloody battle, B. c. 530. The victorious queen, who had lost her son in a previous battle, was so incensed against Cyrus, that she cut off his head, and threw it into a vessel filled with blood, exclaiming—Satiāte sanguine, quem satisti;" which old Hage used to translate—"Now take thy fill of blood, who could never be satisfied when living."

splendid canopy of green silk velvet, lined with thick, rich, white satin. The flowing hangings are made of similar materials, all said to have been worked by Eleanor Roos (coheiress of Lord Roos), who was the wife of Sir Robert Manners. After remaining at Belvoir for many years, it was removed again to Haddon, as a splendid relic of its ancient grandeur. The last party who slept in this noble bed was George IV., on his visit to the Duke of Rutland, when

Prince Regent.*

ANCIENT STATE ROOM. Pushing back the ample folds of the tapestry, twe passed through a door concealed behind it, into a gloomy apartment, which is decidedly the most ancient part of Haddon. The small windows, scarcely admitting a sufficiency of light even in the noon-day sun, strikingly illustrate the stern and savage character of the age in which they were constructed. This room is hung with ancient arras (genuine Gobelin); the subjects scriptural, representing the history of Moses, &c. In one part is represented his being found by Pharaoh's daughter in the ark of bulrushes.

On passing from hence we came to a short passage in the Eagle Tower. A strong old frame close by the doorway was used to string their bows. This passage led to the circular stair-case; on two sides of which we found a succession of ill-constructed rooms with plaster or limestone floors, conveying little idea of comfort, but strangely suitable to the times, and the rude occupants who reared this old tower, which bears the most indubitable marks of Norman, if not of Saxon We now made our way, not without difficulty, up

the winding staircase to the top of the

EAGLE TOWER, and in a few minutes, emerging through a door in the Watch Tower, situated on the north-west angle, we found ourselves on the leads of this ancient structure.

When we first entered Haddon, the sun was fast declining in the west, and a few of his last lingering rays still played through the antiquated lattice, casting a brilliant light on some of its fine relics, while others were deeply shaded; but before we had completed our route he had set, and the broad

*The subjects on the tapestry of this room are taken from Æsop's Fables. The Author is exceedingly sorry to see this noble bed is obliged to be protected by a rail, from the curious pilfering habits of his countrymen! When shall we know better than to mutilate such a fine relic of antiquity by a silly "penchant" for the marvellous.

+ The doors were in general hidden, or partly covered, by the tapestry; a practice very general in France at present, and introduced in some cases in this country, except that silk hangings are used instead of arras,



shadows of eve began to envelope the chief part in gloom. This was particularly the case, and most impressive, on passing through the last suite of dark rooms in the oldest part of Haddon, which carried the mind irresistibly back to days of old: when men of hardy and fearless manners, fond of war and savage sports, lorded it over a world; their minds locked up by a ruthless superstition, the chief object of which was wealth, in order to gratify the pride and passion of our selfish nature, and its only bond of union, self-interest. A train of such thoughts crossing the mind in rapid succession, makes the blood run chill in traversing the dark chambers of Haddon. It seemed, as we stood on this elevated point, as if we had just escaped from the dungeon of some mighty fortress.*

^{*} We cannot be surprised on passing through this house that Mrs. Radcliffe (as already noticed) should have obtained her most powerful impression here. Its corridors, fretted cornices, tattered arras, low darklooking rooms and passages, thick walls and great extent are highly calculated to inspire such scenes as she has depicted in her work. A strange work it is; but life is still more strange; no human pen can depict it.

This last part afforded us a strong illustrative specimen of the state of society in the times in which it originated.

VIEW FROM THE WATCH TOWER. We felt relieved, invigorated, and delighted in our lofty position, which commanded a magnificent prospect, full of interest and beauty, and teeming with life. The time was evening, and a glowing summer's sky cast its soft and mellowed tints over every object in nature. The season, that of haymaking, and the vale animated by numerous groups of busy rustics, tossing the fragrant hay to the wind. A gentle zephyr had sprung up since the decline of day, and now played with refreshing sweetness over the battlements of Haddon. Flocks of sheep and groups of cattle were luxuriating in the rich pastures, stretching right and left, as far as the eye could reach; the vale beautifully wooded, and watered by the tortuous but lovely Wye, bounded on one side by the limestone hills, which, rising gently and extending far to the west and north, seemed to fill an almost boundless horizon. The bold ridge on which Haddon stood, covered with thick woods, formed its eastern boundary; and to the north might be seen Longstone Edge, the great Finn, and the lofty eminences near to Buxton; to the south, appeared the beautiful wooded knolls of Stanton and Darley.

To enjoy such a splendid prospect to its utmost verge we ascended the rude steps of the Watch Tower. The two dear friends who accompanied me, and who had never visited this part of the Peak till now, were so affected with the richness, extent, and glory of the scene, that they remained for a time perfectly silent, wrapped up in the enjoyment of those delicious emotions which are the result of surprise, delight, and wonder, and which were enhanced in a tenfold degree by the immediate transition from Haddon's deserted halls, to a scene of such interest, animation, and beauty. Their delight ministered additional pleasure to my own mind, as I beheld the fair pastures, and this ancient palace of the "King of the Peak!!" But what a contrast! there was Haddon, venerable for years, with its vast extent and multitude of turrets and embattled towers beneath the eye, once the favoured seat of genuine hospitality, and the scene of many a festive day, now silent and forlorn, in its desertion and widowhood, while all around was full of life and apparent happiness!

In order to give full effect and entire development to

this train of thought, the author cannot do better than introduce to the notice of the reader the following beautiful and touching lines, which appeared in the Bijou for 1828:—

"Haddon, within thy silent halls, Deserted courts, and turrets high, How mournfully on memory falls Past scenes of antique pageantry.

A holy spell pervades thy gloom,
A silent charm breathes all around,
And the dread stillness of the tomb
Reigns o'er thy hallow'd, haunted ground.

King of the Peak! thy hearth is lone, No sword-girt vassals gather there, No minstrel's harp pours forth its tone In praise of Maud or Margaret fair.

Where are the high and stately dames Of princely Vernon's bannered hall? And where the knights, and what their names, Who lead them forth to festival?

They slumber low, and in the dust,
Prostrate and fallen the warrior lies,
His falchion's blade is dim with rust,
And quench'd the ray of beauty's eyes!

Those arms which once blaz'd through the field, Their brightness never shall resume; O'er spear and helm, and broken shield, Low droops the faded sullied plume.

Arise! ye mighty dead, arise! Can Vernon, Rutland, Stanley sleep? Whose gallant hearts and eagle eyes Disdain'd alike to crouch or weep?

And ye who own'd the orbs of light,
The golden tress—the pure fair brow—
In the cold sleep of endless night,
Say, do the Vernons' daughters bow?

No, no, they wake! a seraph guard, To circle this their lov'd domain; Which time has spar'd, nor man has marr'd With sacrilegious hand profane.

Haddon! thy chivalry is fled!
The tilt and tourney's brave array,
Where knights in steel from heel to head,
Bore love's or honour's prize away.

No hunter's horn is heard to sound; No dame, with swan-like mien glides by, Accompanied by hawk and hound, On her fair palfrey, joyously.

Thy splendid sun has set in night:
But gentler, holier, more subdued,
Than earth's most brilliant dazzling light,
Thy moonlight garden's solitude."—H. B.

With great reluctance we withdrew from this lovely and all-absorbing picture; but time pressed-Matlock was to be reached before night fully set in, and the gardens were yet to be seen; therefore we speedily retraced our steps down the staircase, and through the gloomy apartments, and were let out by a pair of clumsy folding doors, in the Ante-room, to the upper Terrace.

Out of these doors, it is said, the beautiful Dorothy Vernon eloped with Sir John Manners, on one of Haddon's bridal and festive nights, when the ball-room was crowded with gay and joyous guests, listening to the sweet strains of music, or tripping it in the mazy and exhilarating dance.

We entered, by a flight of broken moss-covered steps,* Dorothy Vernon's Walk, which is above the upper Terrace, and bounded with splendid lime-trees. After exploring this once beautiful walk, we again descended the steps to the

Terrace, and traced out its old parterres, amongst ancient yews, their branches reaching nearly to ground. This Terrace is elevated considerably above the principal garden, and defended by a strong balustrade, in the centre of which there is a flight of stone steps, also defended with balustrades, leading down into the garden. From the top of these the best view of the entire south front of Haddon is obtained, which the



^{*} Care should be taken in ascending these steps, lest the foot should slip, especially if wet. This caution is equally needful in other parts of Haddon.

† On visiting it this early and lovely spring, it was covered ankle deep with the deli-

cate aconite-the first flowering plant-

late accomplished and amiable Duchess of Rutland loved to sketch; it was her favourite view. We give a sketch by Rayner, in the preceding page, of the three beautiful Oriels

in the Earl's State dressing and bed-room.

We retraced our pathway through a dark passage into the Great Hall. By a door which opens on the stairs leading to the north side of Haddon, we entered a lobby which communicates with a great number of rooms in a good state of repair, hung with old pictures, which are now being cleaned and done up. Here are Prince Rupert's suite of Rooms, and Margaret and Dorothy Vernon's. The latter is full of interest to the lovers of romantic love stories, as adjoining to her sitting-room is a small recess or study, with an oriel window and lattice, which it is said she opened to converse with her lover, who approached it unobserved from the wood on this side, and gave her intimation of his presence by the sweet and gentle strains of his lute.

We made our exit as we had entered, by the small door of the principal entrance-gate, the under step of which is worn down almost six inches by the tread of the foot for so many centuries. We shall now rapidly and very briefly

glance over

ITS HISTORY. Haddon is set down in Doomsday-book as a berewick in the Manor of Bakewell, which Manor was given by William the Conqueror to his natural son, William Peverel. Probably Haddon existed as one of the strong Castles of the Barons prior to the Conquest, but if any part of this may not be dated farther back than that era, there cannot be a doubt but that a part of it was reared, and became one of the strong-holds of the Peverels by gift of the Crown, about this time. It remained only about two generations in this family, having been granted by one of them to a retainer, named Avenell, on the tenure of knight's service.* It continued in the possession of the Avenells till the reign of Richard I., when their co-heiresses married Vernon and Basset. It appears to have been the joint property of these two families for a considerable time, as stated by Mr. Lysons, in his Magna Britannica, who observes, "that the Bassets possessed the moiety of Nether Haddon, in the reign of Edward III., but in or before the reign of Henry VI., the whole became vested in the Vernons."

^{*} Rayner's Illustrations of Haddon, 1st part, page 18.

As it is not our intention to give an account* of each of the lords of Haddon, which is a matter of little interest to the general reader, we shall simply observe, that it remained for upwards of three centuries and a half in the possession of the Vernons. The last of the male branches of this noble race was Sir George Vernon, whose princely style of living has been already noticed. On his death, in the seventh year of Queen Elizabeth, his possessions, which amounted to thirty Manors, descended to his two daughters, Margaret and Dorothy: the former was married to Sir Thomas Stanley, Knight, second son of the Earl of Derby, and the latter to Sir John Manners, Knight, second son of Thomas, first Earl of Rutland of that name. The property of the Vernous being divided between the two daughters—the Derbyshire estates, including the Manor of Haddon, falling to the lot of Dorothy, became, by marriage, the property of the Manners' family, and have regularly descended to the present Duke of Rutland.

Haddon continued to be the chief residence of Sir John Manners and his descendants till 1641, when the grandchild of Sir John succeeded to the Earldom of Rutland, on the death of George Manners, the seventh Earl of that name, without male issue; after which time, Belvoir, the ancient seat of the Manners, was, alternately with Haddon, the resi-

dence of this noble family.

In the time of the first Duke of Rutland (so created by Queene Anne) seven score servants were maintained at Haddon; but shortly after this period it was finally quitted for Belvoir, since which it has been occasionally the scene of mirth and revelry, and the cheerful welcome of former ages, so far as the despoiled state of the deserted house would admit, has not been wanting to increase the pleasure of the guests.

The joyous festive board was spread here shortly after the conclusion of the peace with America, when nearly two hundred couples danced in the long Gallery; and in the summer of 1836 it was again the scene of festive enjoyment, on the Marquis of Granby attaining his majority, when the Duke gave a grand treat to all his tenantry in the

neighbourhood.

^{*} See the excellent work just quoted for particulars, where this subject has been treated at some length.

Haddon has been for some years now the scene annually, of much interest and enjoyment; the Bakewell and High Peak Institute being allowed, by the kind permission of the

Duke of Rutland, to hold their soiree in it.

The late Duchess was remarkably fond of Haddon, and felt particularly solicitous that it should be kept in an efficient state of repair, as a fine relic of the olden time. This amiable lady did much to adorn and beautify the estate of Haddon and the neighbourhood of Stanton Woodhouse, near by, in the Vale of Darley. As an object of antiquarian research, Haddon Hall will have its attraction as long as it exists, while the beauty of the country around it will ever excite the admiration of the traveller.*

On quitting Haddon, we soon reached the beautiful vil-

lage of

ROWSLEY,

where visitors will meet with good accommodation at the Peacock Inn, a fine old place, much resorted to in the



* Mr. King, when speaking of Haddon in his Archæologia, makes the following remarks on the rude construction of the doors, &c., which are strikingly applicable:—"The doors were concealed every where behind the hangings, so that the tapestry must be lifted up to pass in and out; only, for convenience, there were great iron hooks, (many of which are still in their places) by means whereof it might occasionally be held back. The doors being thus concealed, nothing can be conceived more ill-fashioned than their workmanship; few of these fit at all close, and wooden bolts, rude bars, and iron hasps, are in general their best fastening."

fishing season, and at all times the favourite resort of those artists who delight to sketch the old halls of Haddon and the princely mansion of Chatsworth. Here sometimes have congregated Stanfield, Cattermole, Oakley, Nash, Landseer, and many others both of the line and easel, to enjoy their favourite pursuits of drawing and angling.—For the latter it is especially resorted to, because of the opportunities afforded by the junction of the Derwent and Wye a little below Rowsley. Connected with the Inn is a beautiful garden. Altogether this is a comfortable house: it has been kept for some years by Mr. S. Severn. It is distant from Chatsworth three miles, and from Haddon a mile and a half.

DRIVES AND WALKS.

By reference to these two noble houses, parties will see how admirably this Inn is situated for those who wish to make daily visits to them for sketching. From hence, also, there is a splendid ride or walk by Stanton Woodhouse, his Grace the Duke of Rutland's shooting-box, which may be seen, and then up through the fine brakes and ravines on the lofty side of Stanton Lees, where the most magnificent views of Darley, Tansley, Chatsworth and Haddon Dales, may be obtained. Here, in the midst of a splendid forest of pines, stands a square tower, built by W. Thornhill, Esq. of Stanton Hall; and here, too, are lovely grass walks or rides, winding along the top, and on the edge, of the bold and lofty cliffs, studded with immense gritstone blocks. On the south side of one of these, overhanging the rides, is sculptured the CORONET of the Duke of Rutland; under it, a large "Y," and the date 1826. This is the boundary of the Duke's and Mr. Thornhill's properties. The peeps here and there down the fine glens, with the outstretched views of the fertile and lovely vales, are quite charming, especially if it be a sunny day. We were quite delighted in visiting this Alpine ridge, a short time ago. Parties may go to the Router Rocks (which see) by this route, and then round by Hartle Brook and Haddon. A drive, too, to Alport, Youlgrave, and the Lathkeil Valley, is interesting. It is a pity parties should remain days in the neighbourhood of some of the finest things, and not see them because not pointed out.

RETURN TO MATLOCK.

After passing Rowsley bridge, we fell into the same line

of road we traversed in the morning, and in half an hour were again within the narrow and rocky defile of Matlock, with its lofty peaks; in a few minutes more we were domiciled by our own hearth, after spending a day of unmixed enjoyment—a day on which we were able

"To look through nature up to nature's God,"

—a day in which we had traced the histories of the past in Haddon—beheld the splendours of the present—the triumphs and embellishments of art in Chatsworth—and examined nature's living page robed in loveliness and beauty. And will it surprise the reader if we concluded it by reading the INSPIRED PAGE, bending the knee and lifting up the hand and heart of adoring thankfulness to Him, who had given us the CAPACITY and FURNISHED us with the means of such vast enjoyment?

CHAPTER VI.

EXCURSION TO SOUTH WINGFIELD AND HARDWICK, BY LEA, HOLLOWAY, AND CRICH.

REMARKS ON THE DRIVE, STRUCTURE OF CRICH CLIFF, SCENERY, SOUTH-WINGFIELD MANOR HOUSE, THE STATE OF THE RUINS, VERY FINE GROINED ROOF OF THE CELLAR, MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS, HISTORY OF THE MANOR, ETC.

This is perhaps one of the most lovely and interesting drives about Matlock, although it is not so frequently taken as those already described, simply because it is not so well known as it ought to be, and being also out of any of the direct lines of route, the stranger has no opportunity of even a casual glance at its lovely scenery. But the author would strongly recommend this drive, to view the fine old relics of "Wingfield Manor House," and Hardwick Hall, which may be accomplished easily in one day—and even Newstead, if a party is stirring early, and their plans well laid.

It is now some years since the author, for the first time, had the pleasure of enjoying this drive; and then it was to visit the Lead Mines on Crich Cliff, a lofty conical hill, of no ordinary interest to the Geologist, not only from the rich

veins of ore found in it, but from the fact of its being an isolated mass of the Carboniferous Limestone, thrust up and protruded through all the sandstone and shale measures; and it has of late years proved to be by far the richest Mineral field in the whole Wapentake of Wirksworth, or indeed in the entire Peak of Derbyshire.—This fact may perhaps be considered as a proof of the intimate connexion subsisting between the intensity of the volcanic action and the production of rich Mineral veins, as this Cliff exhibits the most striking proofs of those gigantic forces which have been originally brought into such extensive operation to break up and elevate the earth's crust. Certainly nowhere have such rich lodes (as they are called) of Lead been found as in this field. and nowhere are the strata more strangely disturbed;* but this is neither the time nor the place for entering on this deeply interesting topic.

To proceed on the Tour—we left the Derby road at Cromford, descending by the Cotton Mills and the Cromford Canal Wharf, then passing over the bridge, turning to the left, we soon pass under the arch of the railway. The road winds at the foot of Bow Wood, following the course of the stream till nearly reaching the Hat Manufactory, almost hidden by the thick wood, where it turns northward, leaving the beautiful and more open course of the Derwent, and passing up the narrow but richly wooded valley in which the Hamlet of Lea is situated. Here there is another manufactory for hosiery and merino spinning, belonging to Mr. Smedly, whose house is close by; and a short distance beyond, higher up the Dale, are the "Cupolas," or Lea Smelting Mills, belonging to Mr. Wass.

Nothing can be more picturesque and beautiful than the situation of this hamlet—the limpid mountain stream playing through it, pressed into the service of the various manufactories, which here seem not at all out of keeping with this sylvan beauty—the road literally canopied with the luxuriant foliage, and the whole environed with lofty eminences, clothed to their summits with rich hanging woods.

Passing over the small bridge, we take the road leading up a long and steep hill to the village of Holloway;; on

^{*} The filling of veins is now almost universally ascribed to the action of Voltaic Electricity.

[†] These are similar to those in Bonsall Hollow, already described. ‡ Lea Hurst, the seat of William Nightingale, Esq., is embosomed amongst the woods, to the right.

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attaining which, we find the hills to the north become broken, rugged, and heathy; but the views to the south and west of the Vale of the Derwent, are commanding and beautiful. Holloway is situated under a lofty Cliff, composed of the Millstone Grit, covered with dwarf pines, gorse and underwood, which bound the left as far as Crich Cliff. From this elevated terrace the most extensive views are obtained of Longnor woods, the Shining Cliff, Crich Chase, (stretching near to Belper) the richly wooded and watered Valley, with a fine and highly cultivated and undulating country beyond, extending as far as the eye can reach.—Looking backwards, Masson Low, and Middleton and Cromford Moors appear in all the breadth of their massive and noble outline.

About a mile from Holloway the road takes a sharp turn to the left, and we soon reach a deep and well-wooded ravine, which separates the towering Limestone mass of Crich Cliff from the lesser eminences of the Millstone Grit. Here, to the left, is the Wake-bridge Mine, belonging to Messrs. Wass of Lea, and Cox of Derby. It has been drained by a steam-engine to a great depth, and much ore has been obtained. It is now, to all appearance, nearly exhausted.

The ravine is passed by a good bridge, and we come close upon the Gingler Mine to the right, and into the richest field for Lead Ore in the kingdom. On the lofty summit is the Glory Mine, said (a short time ago) to be worth nearly

£10,000. per annum.

From the top of Crich Cliff, (belonging to Mr. Hurt, of Alderwasley) the most extensive prospects are obtained, embracing (it is said) a range over five counties, and from whence, on a clear day, the magnificent Cathedral of Lincoln

can be seen.

The town of Crich, which is of considerable antiquity, occupies a very lofty and bleak position at the south-east end of the Cliff.* The distance from Crich to South Wingfield is about two miles, over a very indifferent road, and the country becomes less romantic, but rich and cultivated, and presents to the eastward that fine undulating and wavy outline, not unlike some of the bolder parts of Warwickshire, which are so much admired.

^{*} Crich is as celebrated for its lime quarries as for its mines—lime being quarried and hunt to a great extent, and sent by canal throughout the counties of Derby, Nottingham, &c. A railway has been made by the Messrs, Stevenson & Co., for the advantage of their lime-kilns, at Amber Gate. Mr. Sommersides is the manager.

Here we enter the great "Midland Coal Field," which has given birth to the immense iron-works at Butterley, Codnor Park, &c., and laid the foundation for the wealth and prosperity of those densely populated towns, Nottingham and Sheffield, both situated within its range, and which has furnished the means of enriching the whole of this once heathy and barren district, extending over an area of many square miles, and at the same time collaterally served, in connexion with the Lead-Mines, to bring the lofty mountainous tracts of the Peak into a high and fine state of cultivation, adorning the mountain brow with the stately pine and majestic oak, and covering their valleys, and even their summits, with verdure and beauty.

We presently discovered the noble, but now deserted

Towers of

Wingfield Manor House, with more than ordinary interest, situated on a lofty eminence of the new red sandstone, to the right of the village, from which it is separated by a narrow dell, through this a small brook passes, washing the base of the knoll on two sides, and loftily on its brow stands the fine old ruin; its grey shattered turrets and battlements, mantled with tufts of ivy, peering from amidst the luxuriant wood which invests and covers a great part of the hill.

We left our carriage at the small Inn in the village, and made our way on foot by Mr. Halton's house, situated in the meadows before the old Manor. On passing the brook over an indifferent bridge, the road winds up the hill overhung with the pendant foliage, and on the summit we passed some ancient yews, which had once graced the bowers and beautiful pleasure-grounds surrounding the house in its halcyon days. We entered into the south court by that portion now inhabited as a farm house, for this once princely residence, where high-born dames and courtly knights lived in inglorious ease, and held their nightly revels, is reduced to the common purposes of a farm-stead. Yes! the ox and the filthy swine prowl through its roofless halls, and the busy rustic annually rears the hay-rick and corn-stack in its spacious courts—the bat and the owl nestle among the ivy, clinging to its old walls, or in the rents of its lofty turrets-and the nettle and briar flourish abundantly among its ruins-thus exhibiting an impressive monument of the mutations caused by time, and how lightly the noble mansion or splendid palace is

esteemed by Him who sways the destinies of our race, and "fixes the bounds of their habitations."

South Wingfield is one of the earliest instances of those noble quadrangular mansions, which succeeded the irregular piles of mixed building that were the first deviations from the uncomfortable and gloomy castles of the ancient Barons. It was erected (according to Camden) in the reign of Henry VI., by Ralph Lord Cromwell, whose arms appear on the battlement above the doorway of the porch on the north side, which side censists of a porch and a large projecting bay, with three gothic windows, the arches slightly pointed and enriched beneath the battlements, with a fascia of quatrefoil and roses, giving evidence of the magnificence and beauty of this once stately edifice.

The great hall must have been a noble apartment, measuring seventy-two feet by thirty-six; but the whole is now so completely dismantled, that no accurate idea can be formed of its original grandeur. The principal and loftiest tower, on the south side of the building, alone is tolerably perfect, which we ascended, and enjoyed a most commanding

view of the surrounding country.

The groined roof of the cellar, under the great Hall, supported by a double row of massy pillars, is also in good condition and of great interest, being equalled only by those at

Fountains Abbey.

Long prior to the time of its possession by Lord Cromwell, it appears to have been the seat of several distinguished per-Previous to the Norman survey it was held by Roger of Poictou, and then by William Peverel under Earl Allan, who accompanied William the Conqueror to this country. Lord Cromwell claimed it as a cousin and heir-at-law of Margaret, wife of Robert de Swyllington, Knight, to whom it descended through the families of Heriz and Bellars, who had held it from the time of compiling Doomsday Book. But as our limits will not admit of our enlarging on this point, we must briefly notice, that it came by purchase into the possession of John Talbot, second Earl of Shrewsbury, and continued in the possession of this noble family till 1616, when it became the property of the Earl of Pembroke and other noblemen, and is at the present time in the possession of Wingfield Halton, Esq., by whose ancestors it was purchased in the reign of Charles II.

Here the ill-fated Mary Queen of Scots was obliged to

spend many days of her tedious and painful existence, first under the Earl of Shrewsbury, as her jailer, and afterwards under Sir Ralph Sadler. The commencement of her imprisonment here is uncertain, but it is said she entered into a correspondence with her friends from hence, which induced Leonard Dacre to make an attempt to liberate her from her thraldom in 1569. The whole time of her confinement here was about nine years, when she was removed to

Tutbury.

The Manor House suffered much in the Civil Wars. It was first garrisoned by the Parliament, and soon afterwards attacked and taken by storm by a party of the Royalists in November, 1643, under the command of the Marquis of Newcastle, then subsequently retaken by Sir John Gell, of Hopton, who breached the walls with cannon placed on the neighbouring heights-Col. Dalby, the governor, fell in the conflict. It was afterwards the scene of some slight skirmishes between the contending parties, but was ordered to be finally dismantled by the Parliament in 1646. From that time it was allowed gradually to go to decay, without any attempts being made to reinstate it in its former grandeur; and, unfortunately, its dilapidations have been much accelerated by a gentleman into whose possession it came after a suit in Chancery, who pulled down some of its more beautiful parts, to build a modern mansion at the foot of the hill. But we must bid adieu to South Wingfield, and proceed to notice another equally important house, still in perfection, and retaining all its ancient grandeur and beauty.

HARDWICK HALL.

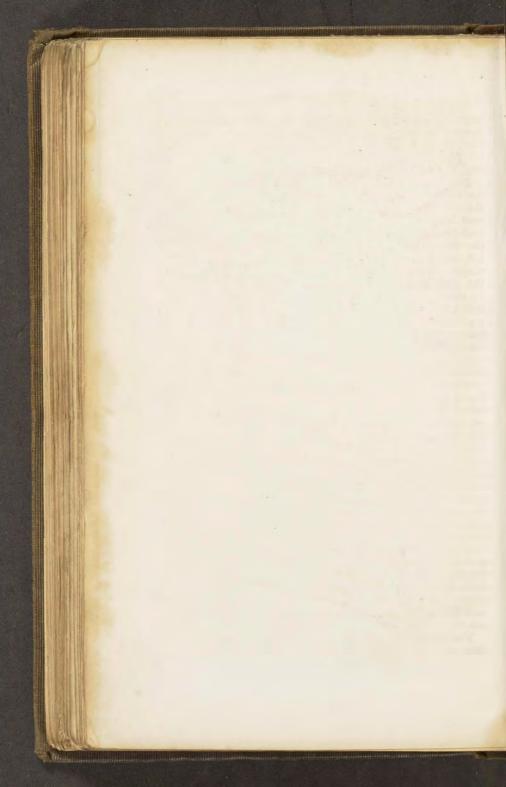
CHAPTER VII.

CARRIAGE DRIVE SEVENTEEN MILES.—PEDESTRIAN OR EQUESTRIAN TOUR,
THIRTEEN MILES BY TANSLEY AND WOLLEY MOOR.—VIEWS FROM
TANSLEY MOOR.—VIEW OF HARDWICK HALL.—GENERAL REMARKS.—
STATE ROOM.—PICTURE GALLERY.—NEWSTEAD ABBEY.—CHESTERPIELD.—KEDLESTON, ETC.

HARDWICK HALL is but a few miles distant from South Wingfield, through Stretton, Morton, and Tibshelf. This is per-



BARDWICK HALL



haps the best carriage drive to Hardwick; but as our tour there for the first time this spring was a pedestrian one, for the purpose of examining the geology of the district crossed, which is only about thirteen miles instead of seventeen, we

shall retrace our steps to Matlock.

Before five o'clock, on one of the finest mornings of this remarkable spring, a medical friend and myself started for this relic of the olden time. Our way led by the High Tor, over Matlock Bridge, through Matlock Green up the road, over the sloping edge of Riber Hill, to Tansley; on passing the village we left the Alfreton road, and struck to the left into a rough and less frequented one, not fit for carriages. Looking backward at this point, the view into the fruitful vales of Tansley, Matlock, and Darley, bounded by the high and black ridges of the grit and carboniferous limestone, was exceedingly delightful. It seemed like looking into another hemisphere, contrasted with the bold and barren tops of the hills. On reaching the top of the Moor, we rapidly descended the slopes of the gritstone, on the small hamlet of Butterley; and soon reached the edge of the coal measures on Wolley Moor. We kept direct to the eastward, and on ascending a steep hill by a farm-house, we found ourselves overlooking the vale of Stretton, through which the North Midland Railway runs, and on reaching it, we saw the deep cutting, nearly a mile in extent, before this important Railway is carried into the long tunnel of Clay Cross. We could now distinctly hear the roar of one of the down trains, and we had not reached the height by Stretton, before it made its appearance. An object of no ordinary character, moving with such velocity amongst the defiles of Derbyshire, once so famed for the slow progress of its travellers. Now they seemed to take the lightning's speed. Here we had entered on the great coal field, sufficient evidences of which every where appeared. Near Stretton, a road branches to the left, to Morton, and from thence we proceeded towards Tibshelf. About two hundred yards on the other side of this last place, a footpath takes across the fields to Hardwick. This we say for the benefit of pedestrians, like ourselves. The carriage road turns off at Hardstaff, half a mile further on, which road we had most unwisely

The first appearance of Hardwick is far more imposing than we had imagined. Certainly no print or description we have seen gives any thing like an idea of the boldness, breadth, and grandeur of the old part of Hardwick, as approached from the west. It is seen standing in connexion with the new house, on the very crest of one of the highest and boldest ridges of the New Red Sandstone, overlooking a beautiful valley, and commanding an extent of country on every side, which is seldom equalled in beauty. From the State room of the new, and from the dilapidated one of the old, we could distinctly trace out some of the loftiest eminences of the High and Low Peak; Barrel Edge, and the Black Rocks, near Matlock, Middleton, and Tansley Moors, Stubbing Edge, and the great English Appenine, stretching far to the north, appeared in view, with a rich and beautiful country intervening.

Our first point was the Devonshire Arms, a farm-house and Inn, where parties may obtain the most wholesome fare and the most obliging attention. We reached this by nine, and after a walk of at least thirteen miles, we felt the comfort of rest, and the luxury of some slight refreshment. This Inn stands in the bottom of the vale, above which rises

loftily the old part of Hardwick.

The ascent to the Hall is remarkably steep; the road led us first by the old part, and we entered between two octagonal Lodges into what we call the flower-garden, in front of the house; passing up the centre of the beautiful parterres, enclosed by a lofty wall, ornamented with pinacles, we entered beneath the piazza into the

Great Hall, and for the first time in our lives, beheld a Hall preserving precisely the character of the age in which

it originated. Its furniture,

"The storied arras, source of fond delight,
With old achievement charms the wilder'd sight."

The dark wainscoting, and the heavy gallery which crosses the west end, with its balustrade of oak, are all in perfect keeping. Here is a richly sculptured statue of Mary Queen of Scots, in Maltese stone, by Westmacott, placed on a pedestal of variegated sandstone, in the front panel of which is this inscription, Maria regina scotorum, Nata 1512; a suis in exilium acta 1568; ab hospita neci data, 1587. A pair of elk's horns of immense size, (9 feet wide) are over the gallery at the south-west end.

From this Hall we were led by the north staircase to the

CHAPEL, which is hung with tapestry, representing scriptural subjects: all the chairs, cushions, &c., wrought in needle-work, are still in good preservation. We next entered the

DINING-ROOM.—The mantel-piece in this spacious room is an elaborate piece of work; on it are an Earl's coronet, with the initials E. S., the date of 1597, and the following motto in gilt letters, "The conclusion of all things is to fear god and to keepe his commaundments." This room is wainscoted with dark oak, as indeed most of the rooms are, and ornamented with portraits of distinguished persons, which we are sorry not to be able to name. We next entered the best bed-room, which is hung with curious and beautiful ancient silk drapery, embossed with emblematic figures in gold and silver thread; over the fire-place are the arms of Cavendish, Shrewsbury, and Hardwick.

The Drawing-Room is wainscoted, above which is tapestry representing the story of Esther and king Ahasuerus. Here are several good portraits, and on the lofty mantelpiece occur the Hardwick arms in the boldest relief, with a quaint Latin inscription under, between carved sculptured ornaments:—"SANGUINE CORNU CORDE OCULO PEDE CERVUS

ET AURE NOBILIS, ET CLARO PONDERE NOBILIOR."

We next entered the Duke's bed-room, hung with beautiful tapestry: adjoining this is a most delightful dressing-room, with a southern aspect. Over the mantel-piece is an admirable picture of a dead Christ. A subject of this solemn kind is always affecting; but when well done, it be-

comes super-eminently so.

We returned through the drawing-room to the principal Stair-case. This is composed of a long broad flight of stone steps. The walls have been recently covered with beautiful tapestry, in the best possible condition. The subjects representing the story of Hero and Leander, Abraham meeting the Angels, Sodom in flames, the Wise Men of the East, Meeting of Clitus and Alexander, and Hunting subjects. On the spacious landing we were much struck with the fine old door, (surmounted by the Hardwick arms, and on it a very curious lock), which opens into the

STATE-ROOM, OR PRESENCE CHAMBER.

This is a spacious apartment, with an immense bay or recess, which of itself would form a capacious room. The dimen-

sions of this noble room are sixty-five feet by thirty-three, and twenty-six feet in height. The first object which arrests the attention is the canopy at the extreme end, composed of rich needle-work-black velvet embroidered: underneath this are the state chair and fauld stool, equally enriched, and immediately in front is an old table curiously inlaid with The mantel-piece is lofty, with full columns, the cornice of carved alabaster, over which are the arms of England. Rich tapestry covers the walls for a considerable height, the subjects on it are from the principal events in the Odyssev: above this is a deep ornamental frieze of raised plaster painted, representing a stag hunt, and the court of Diana, and other Mythological subjects. The lofty state bed occupies the left-hand side of the recess; the curtains are of crimson velvet, and gold and silver tissue: and on the opposite side to it is a remarkable pier-glass, the frame enriched with exquisite carvings in wood, which equals any thing we have ever seen in Chatsworth. The whole furniture of this place is in perfect keeping with it; nothing new is introduced to dissipate the charm which possesses you-that you are visiting a house in the age of Elizabeth, or of James I. fire-dogs are curious and handsome things.

Pushing back the ample folds of the tapestry, which here, as everywhere else in this house, conceals the doors, we enter the Library, which bears manifest marks of the style and character of the renowned builder of Hardwick, as do most of the rooms here, as if she were determined her name and works should never perish. We next enter a most spacious bed-chamber; the walls hung with old embroidered silk

drapery. Then succeeds the

APARTMENT OF MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS, which is full of interest; as Hardwick was her place of confinement for at least nine years.† Here is the bed, the curtains of which are said to have been wrought by her own delicate hands; they are of velvet, beautifully embroidered with flowers in coloured silk. Over the door are the arms of Scotland, carved in wood, with the initials M. R., and the inscription "MARIE STEWART, PAR LA GRACE DE DIEU, ROYNE DE SCOSSE, DOUAIRIERE DE FRANCE."

* This canopy, we believe, has been removed to one of the State rooms in Chatsworth.

⁺ I have been very recently informed that this unfortunate Queen never was at Hardwick. The discovery of some papers in Chatsworth is said to prove this.

This unfortunate princess is said never to have been in the present house. The bed tapestry, and many other interesting objects, were removed from the old house to this.

Through the blue bed-room, a most comfortable apartment, covered with rich tapestry and carved alabaster—the

Marriage of Tobit, very well done-we entered the

PICTURE GALLERY.

This Gallery is decidedly the greatest attraction in Hardwick. It occupies nearly the entire length of the building, or eastern front, and is upwards of a hundred and sixty-nine feet long, twenty-two wide, and twenty-six feet high, with immense bays or recesses; eighteen stupendous windows (twenty feet high) light this splendid room, which is hung with tapestry, literally covered with portraits of distinguished individuals, chiefly members of, or connected with, the noble These portraits are valuable; not so House of Cavendish. much on account of their execution, as for the historical recollections that attach to the persons they represent. Here is a striking full-length portrait of the Countess herself in a close black dress, a double ruff, and a long chain of five rows of pearls, reaching below her waist, sleeves down to her wrists, turned up with small pointed white cuffs, and a fan in her left hand. There is a half-length, by Johnson, which portrays her in more advanced age, but there is the same keen expression in both, indicating the sharp temper and haughty bearing of this clever and extraordinary woman. Here are also good portraits of the great "Queen Bess," Mary Queen of Scots, and Lady Jane Grey, Sir Thomas Moore, Bishop Gardiner, Cardinal Pole, Sir William Cavendish, first Earl of Devonshire, and an admirable one of William, first Duke of Devonshire, on horse-back, which occupies the north end, opposite to Queen Elizabeth; and to name but one more, there is a striking likeness of the celebrated Thomas Hobbes, the expression of which gives you at once an idea of the peculiarities and cynical opinions of this clever but eccentric man, so long a resident at Chatsworth. There are not less than a hundred and eighty-seven portraits in this magnificent room; and the fact of so many faces and keen eyes peering upon you whichever way you turn, heightens the effect on the mind.

The chimney-pieces are lofty and magnificent, though not

beautiful; over and in the centre of the enriched work, are two well-carved figures in alabaster; one representing Pity, with a lovely boy clasping her feet; the other represents Justice.

We retraced our steps through a door at the far end, again, as usual, passing beneath the ample folds of the tapestry, which gives such an air of ancient grandeur and mystery to the whole building. We then descended the stone stairs, through the Hall and Garden, and across the Terrace to the old Hall, which we grieve to see in such a state of dilapidation. The views both from the Terrace and the old State-Room (the beams now propt up with wooden posts) are exceedingly beautiful, and most extensive. We shall close our remarks by a quotation respecting Hardwick, from

Fisher's admirable work:-

"This celebrated Hall is one of the possessions of his Grace the Duke of Devonshire; and, in the sixteenth century, it was part of the dower of Elizabeth, sister and heiress of John Hardwick, of Hardwick, Esq., on her espousals with Sir William Cavendish. That lady, as we have elsewhere observed, afterwards became Countess of Shrewsbury, and, by her extraordinary abilities, greatly enlarged and adorned the estates, and laid the foundation of much of the wealth and honours of the illustrious family of Cavendish. mansion was rebuilt under her superintendence, and has been noticed by Walpole in his 'Anecdotes of Painting,' as a remarkable specimen of the noble edifices of the 'Elizabethan era,' combining the beauties and faults of a style, in which magnitude was often mistaken for grandeur, and costly workmanship for taste. There was also a desire in its designers for the whimsical and the elaborate, which frequently displayed itself in all intended to be ornamental; and of this we have an instance in the towers of this edifice, which, as their summits emerge above the wide-spreading oaks of the fine park in which the mansion stands, appear to be covered with the lightly-shivered fragments of battlements; but upon attentive observation, these seeming flaws are discovered to be neatly carved open-work, in which the letters E. S., under a coronet, frequently repeated, signify Elizabeth, Countess of Shrewsbury.

"The building is situated on elevated ground, about seven miles from Chesterfield, and was reared nearly on the site of the more ancient mansion; the stone employed in its erection being supplied by the quarries of the hill on which it is founded. The prospect around is extensive and interesting; and the Hall, amid its park of the finest forest trees, rises with much dignity, with a lofty tower at each corner, and another of spacious and commanding aspect in front.

GENERAL DIRECTIONS.

Parties from either Derby or Matlock may now visit Hardwick by taking the Railway to South Wingfield. The distance from thence is only about five miles. The journey may be accomplished easily enough by taking the first train in the morning, and returning by the last. The carriage drive is by Stretton, where the roads turns off to Morton and Tibshelf, and through Hardstaff to Hardwick. Pedestrians should turn up half a mile beyond the toll-bar to Shirland, then Tibshelf, and so across the fields to Hardwick, which is the nearest way.

Parties coming from the North or from London, might

visit Hardwick from

CHESTERFIELD,

a most interesting town, with its crooked spire, where they may get suitable conveyances.

SECOND EXCURSION TO HARDWICK, AND THE FIRST TO NEWSTEAD ABBEY, BY MANSFIELD.

On July the 10th, last year, the Author, accompanied by an officer and his lady, from India, and three other friends from London, started by Hardwick, for Newstead, a place we had long wished to see, associated as it is with the memory of one of the most gifted, though one of the most eccentric of men, the latter part of whose life may be said to have been that of a wanderer from his country and his home. A life suited to his morbid feelings and wounded pride, but a life still highly calculated to bring into full play all those marvellous powers in all their variety, which, as a poet, he displayed. At the foot of the page is inserted a very characteristic note, which appears in one of his memorandumbooks, and is published in Moore's Life of that distinguished individual.*

^{*&}quot;When I was fifteen years of age, it happened that, in a cavern in Derbyshire, I had to cross in a boat (in which two people only could lie down) a stream which flows under a rock, with the rock so close upon the water, as to admit the boat only to be pushed on by a ferryman (a

We took the road by Matlock Bridge and Green, up to Tansley, and over by Wessington, a small village on the south side of the Moor of that name, a mile and a half above Tansley. Here our progress was stayed a little by the loss of one of our horse's shoes, but a son of Vulcan being at hand, we speedily righted, and rapidly proceeded down into the fine valley of South Wingfield. We turned to the left by Higham Mill, passed beneath the North Midland Railway, and up the steep ascent of the heights on which stands Higham village. The views here on almost all sides are extremely beautiful, and the day was indeed lovely. We passed the toll-bar and the lane leading up to Shirland, (which for a pedestrian is the nearest way to Hardwick), and then passed through the village of Higham, beyond which we neared Stretton, noticed in our pedestrian tour, and then took the left-hand road to Morton and Tibshelf, and so on to the Devonshire Inn, below Hardwick. We walked up the steep hill, and enjoyed a sight of the fine old house already described, and ventured also among the crumbling ruins of old Hardwick. After which we lunched close by the majestic ruins, under the fine old oak, the only tenant of the expansive lawn which exists between the garden wall of the new house, and the boundary wall that crests the heights which overlook one of the richest and finest prospects in England, already described in page 190. The scene was beautiful, and the time one of enjoyment.

From hence we proceeded through the park, which was much more extensive and beautiful than we had anticipated. On reaching the outer gate we took a sharp turn to the right, and in about a mile further we reached the Chesterfield and Mansfield road, just about five miles from the latter town.

We soon passed through a pretty village called Braisly, near which there is an extensive quarry of the new red sandstone. Not intending to stay at Mansfield, we passed through it as quick as the crowded streets of one of its great fairs

Sort of Charon) who wades at the stern, stooping all the time. The companion of my transit was M. A. C., with whom I had been long in love, and never told it, though she had discovered it without. I recollect my sensations, but cannot describe them, and it is as well. We were a party, a Mr. W., two Miss W.s, Mr. and Mrs. Cl—ke, Miss R., and my M. A. C. Alas! why do I say mr? Our union would have healed feuds in which blood had been shed by our fathers—it would have joined lands broad and rich, it would have joined at least one heart, and two persons not ill matched in years (she is two years my elder), and—and—what has been the result?"

would permit us, and having a capital road beyond, we speedily reached the "Hut," a small Inn between Mansfield and Nottingham, and within one mile of Newstead. Here we walked to the Abbey. A large oak occupies the centre of the immense sweep before the gates.* This approach to Newstead is wild and desert-like. The plantations are luxuriant enough, but the road is rough, the ground sterile, and abounding with ferns. When we reached Newstead, the scene somewhat changed. There stood before us part of the ruins of the fine old Abbey, the house in immediate connexion, and the expansive lakes, with lawns of great beauty, spread out on both the south and west sides, while a thick wood and the gardens protected it from the north and east. The stables, in the castellated style, appeared on our right, bordering the upper lake, where a small fancy yacht is usually stationed.

On entering the house, we found ourselves, as we were informed, in the Crypt of the ancient Abbey. Its low groined roof seemed to intimate as much. After the usual preliminary of entering our names, we proceeded into the lobby and up a spiral staircase, at the top of which we found the Monks' room, the bed placed in a recess and canopied over. The room is said to be haunted. The next is a dressing room, and adjoining this, Lord Byron's bed-room. Here are the portraits of his faithful dog Boatswain, and his favourite old servant (who was his father's servant too), old Murray! We shall have to speak of the dog presently, but we cannot but here express our admiration of the care and anxiety Lord Byron continually evinced for this faithful domestic, in

most of his letters to his mother.+

From these rooms we looked out upon the leads of the cloisters, which seemed in a perfect state of repair, but on a more confined scale than those of Gloucester. There is an elegant fountain in the centre, with grotesque figures, &c. We proceeded from this to the Library, a good sized room, and elegantly fitted up. Here are good portraits of Colonel Wildman (the firm friend of the late Lord Byron, and his schoolfellow), and a portrait of Sir John Bryan, who took the Abbey. We found a fine edition of Byron's works here, as well as many other interesting reminiscences of the late lord.

^{*} This is a part of the celebrated Sherwood Forest.

+ He writes from Constantinople, and says:—"Pray take care of my boy Robert, and the old man Murray."—Moore's Life, v. i. p. 325.

We entered a long gallery, where there are some very fine old ebony chairs and sofas of considerable value, and turned into Edward the IVth's room. Here are some capital portraits of Henry the VIth. and VIIIth., Edward the IVth. and VIth., Richard the IIIrd., Lady Jane Grey, Mary Queen of Scots, and the Compt d'Artois at the battle of Agincourt. The mantel-piece is fine, and the furniture beautiful. The needle-work of the chairs was wrought by the hand of the present Mrs. Wildman. There is a unique carved cabinet here. The room is wainscoted.

The next room is called Charles the Second's ante-room. The tapestry is fine, said to be real Beauvais. There is a good portrait of Sarah, Duchess of Marlborough. next, called Charles the Second's bed-room, there is a splendid bed, worked in the reign of Elizabeth. It is said Mary Queen of Scots had one in Holyrood like it. The tapestry with which this room is hung is of a lighter colour than usual, and decidedly the most beautiful we had ever seen. The subjects, Ariadne and Bacchus, in a splendid car, camels, horses, &c., the housings of the latter are magnificently wrought. The portraits of Charles the IInd., his mother, Henrietta Maria, and Mrs. Nott, a lady of the court, occur here. We now entered the Duke of Sussex's room, called so from his late Royal Highness having occupied it during his annual visits to Newstead. On the tapestry (Gobelins) are America and Asia. The bed is a very lofty one, with rich crimson hangings. A basket-work bed (of walnut), and some beautiful chairs, evince the delicate handywork and good taste of Mrs. Wildman. A fine old cabinet, the portrait of the Colonel's favourite charger, and a variety of other interesting things, grace the Duke's sitting-room.

From hence we proceeded along the gallery to the Drawing-room, by far the most magnificent room in the Abbey, being seventy-two feet long and of proportionate width. The top is finished in the Gothic style, or that of our old halls, with bays, the spandrels springing from corbels placed in the wall. The floor is of oak, highly polished. The central part is covered with a splendid carpet. A costly hexagonal chandelier is suspended from the centre. The curtains are of rich silk damask. A full length portrait of the Duke of Sussex in his robes of state, and many other subjects ornament this fine room. Also an exquisite model of a monument in ebony, for Leopold of Austria, ornamented with

figures in ivory, pillars, &c.; also the celebrated cup made of a human skull, richly ornamented in silver, with an elaborate inscription on it, which we did not read, for in fact we could not help feeling a degree of disgust at the use thus made of a part of an immortal being, who may even have held the highest office in the old Abbey. We saw the stone coffin as we passed through the cloisters in which it was found. It is noticed in "Moore's Life," and we are glad to say, not altogether with approbation by him; and Mr. Moore gives also the remarks of a visitor on the style of living during Lord

Byron's residence at the Abbey.

We now proceeded to Lord Byron's Drawing-room, where there is a good portrait of Rembrandt, and a picture of the Nativity, said to be 400 years old. The mantel-piece is very old and curious. The chair covers are all needlework. Painted wainscot covers the walls. The great Hall is now finished, and fitted up in a splendid style. A fine carved screen-work stands at the upper end, and some coats of mail. Thus we have here briefly sketched some of the principal features of this house, which derives, after all, its chief interest from its having been the residence of Lord Byron. We understand Colonel Wildman purchased Newstead out of regard to his former friend, and studiously carries out in his alterations and repairs what he deems would have been according to the taste and habits of Lord Byron.

We now left the house for the grounds, which are rather extensive, but the lakes are a magnificent addition to them. We came to the Monks' Well, a spring of pure water amidst an ancient grove, the thick recesses of which suited well with that class of ideas elicited in visiting such a place, where cowled Monks once trod. This is close to the pond in which they preserved their fish. Hence we passed through the gardens, kept in the finest possible order, and extensive, but which need no remark, and entered the walks originally enclosed within the Abbey grounds. These form a square of great extent. The walks are broad, and stand high, like the broad walk of a rampart. We passed round the Devil's Wood, as it is called, because the old lord placed some statues of Pan and Pandora in it, but perhaps more owing to the eccentric and solitary life of the old lord. The names of Lord Byron and his sisters are cut on one of the trees, which is named in his "Hours of Idleness."

Near the middle of the immense area is the Eagle Pond,

so called from a brass eagle being found in it, now in South-well church. Here the Monks had a splendid preserve for fish. We now approached the ground on which the Abbey church stood, and in the centre of which, and perhaps over the very spot where was once the high altar, is the tomb of Boatswain and his little companion, also a pet dog of Byron's. Here Lord Byron determined to be buried also, had not God, who governs all events, and "fixes the bounds of" all "our habitations," determined otherwise.*

In gazing upon the elegant monument reared to an animal which Byron deemed his *only* faithful friend, a crowd of sad recollections enter the mind—that one so highly gifted should have been so far misled as thus to view all his own species.

Lord Byron thus writes of his favourite:

To mark a friend's remains these stones arise, "I never knew but one, and here he lies."

Young had sung before him,

"Friends grow not thick on every bough, Nor every friend unrotten at the core."

Young's lines are sad enough and too true, but Byron's are a reflection on his race.†

One thing we remarked, and that was, the circular stone steps surrounding the tomb seemed to have been lifted, for the slabs were separated from each other considerably, and more in proportion to the radius outwards from the centre, and on inquiry we found the tomb had been disturbed and almost shaken down during an earthquake, which shook a part of Nottinghamshire some years ago. This seemed to have been the chief centre of its operations.

With these remarks we conclude Newstead, observing however, that we were much gratified with our visit, and obliged by the civility and attention of both the housekeeper

and the gardener.

We returned to the "Hut," and set off home by South Wingfield. On reaching the toll-gate we turned off to the left, and rapidly passed through Kirkby and Pinxton, then Alfreton, beyond which is the park of Palmer Moorewood, Esq. We again passed under the railway and then up to Wingfield, to view the old ruin, (see Gem, page 207,) where we have already fully described this building, which now, as

^{*} Directions to this effect were given in his will.—Moore's Life, v. ii. p. 44.

⁺ Moore's Life, v. i. p. 223.

before, highly gratified us. We came home by Crich and Lea Woods, and performed the tour of fifty-one miles in good time, and had altogether a splendid day.

KEDLESTON.

WE had often heard of Kedleston with its noble Hall, the beautiful Park in which it stands, rich in wood and water, but now we were determined to see for ourselves, whether

"report," reported truly of its magnificence.

With this view, on a delightful autumn day in 1841, the Author set out with three young friends, who broke away from severe study (one reading up for his "great go") to enjoy this trip before their return to "alma mater," to answer for their conduct during the long vacation. We took the omnibus from Matlock to the Amber-gate station of the North Midland Railway; on arriving here, for a whim, and having but a few miles to go, we entered a third class carriage, to enjoy for the first time a trip in one of the immense open carriages of the North Midland. The wind being rather fresh, it amused us exceedingly to see the difficulty all had to keep hats and other moveables from "flying on the wings of the wind," at the time the train was at the top of its speed, while now and then a whiff from the engine, not of the most savoury description, ever and anon reminded us of our position; but still we should say, that to travel in a third class carriage is not one of the most unpleasant modes of travelling. Passing Belper we came to Duffield station; from whence it was our intention to walk, crossing the fields chiefly to the object of our visit, being only 21 miles distant. Here we now found ourselves passing over the gentle acclivities and beautiful green fields of the new red sandstone, a delightful contrast to the rocky ramparts of Matlock, which we had just left. A walk of half an hour brought us into the road to Wirksworth and Newhaven from Derby, proceeding along which a short distance we entered the Park, which is of considerable extent, and contains some of the finest oaks in England. The carriage-drive winds through a grove of magnificent trees; emerging from this we obtained a good view of the house, the situation of which struck us as far too low. It would have been better placed on the very crest of the gentle eminence on the side of which it now stands. We speedily reached a handsome stone

bridge that spans a lake, which, with its adornments of shrubs, plants, and an elegant tower, is a beautiful object. From the battlements of the bridge we had a full view of the Hall and the noble Park, which rises gently each way, south and north, divided equally by the lake and a small brook which intersect it. We reached the house in a few minutes from hence, and had no difficulty in getting admission, but the noble portico arrested our attention. columns thirty feet high, and three feet in diameter (some of these of one stone), support a bold pediment, over which are three statues of Venus, Bacchus and Ceres, within it a Bacchante, two Muses, and a Vestal, all very well executed. We ascended a series of bold steps to the entrance, and found a number of very fine medallions in bas-relief; and then stepping within, we had before us the great attraction of Kedleston, its magnificent Hall, lately re-done up in a rich style, upwards of sixty-seven feet long, by forty-two feet wide. The bold and highly enriched cornices and ceiling, supported by twenty Corinthian columns, executed in the variegated Derbyshire alabaster, have a magnificent effect. The rich colours of this stone, combined with the highly decorative style of the Corinthian order, has the grandest possible appearance in this Hall. The domed central portion is forty feet high. The columns, which are twenty-five feet high, were proportioned from the three columns in the Campo Vaccino at Rome, and originally in the temple of Jupitor Stator, at least so it is said. On the sides of the Hall are a number of very clever chiaro-scuro paintings, which our space forbids us naming; but this is rendered unnecessary, for, by an admirable arrangement, a book is placed in your hands the moment you enter, in which every object is accurately described. Two very fine vases in Maltese stone are here, which are not entered in the catalogue, but all the statues, &c., are. From hence we enter the MUSIC ROOM to the left, which is hung round with many fine pictures; one, a head by Rembrandt, is splendidly done. Here is also a very large and splendid picture, the triumph of Bacchus (thirteen feet by ten), by Luc. Gior-We next entered the withdrawing room, a noble apartment, where we found a Holy family by Guido, a magnificent landscape, by Cuyp, and a Claude, in his best style, with upwards of twenty other pictures of considerable merit. The next was the library, in which were many good pic-

tures and objects of vertu, busts, &c., but one picture, Daniel interpreting to Nebuchadnezzar, by Rembrandt, was decidedly the best we have seen. We now entered the SALOON, which is in a direct line with the Great Hall from the front, the diameter of which is forty-two feet, with a dome rising to the height of nearly sixty feet. The chiaro-scuros over the alcoves, representing some of the most interesting scenes in English history, are thrown out in such bold relief, that at first sight the eye is completely deceived as to their real character, taking them for bas-reliefs in fresco. There are many other things worthy of notice in this rotundo, which we cannot stop to name. The suite of rooms we pass through after this are full of good pictures, &c., in one of which (the wardrobe) there are some beautiful enamels, representing the history of our Saviour, thirty in number. From hence we enter the great dining-room which completes the circle. Here are some noble pictures, and one very fine oval Bath, or side-board cistern, as it is called, in jasper marble.

The space we had travelled over forms nearly a square pile of building, simply varied by the splendid projecting portico in front, and the swell of the saloon behind. This part forms the centre pile of Kedleston; standing out from this in advance, considerably in front of it, are two square wings, connected with the centre by two corridors sweeping in quarter circles, which give to the front of Kedleston, not-withstanding its low position, a bold appearance. The left wing contains the private rooms, and the right, the noble kitchen and other offices. Over the chimney-piece of the kitchen is written the excellent maxim, "Waste not, want

not."

Before we finally quit the Hall, with which we were indeed much gratified, we ought to state, that there are many good pictures. The various rooms containing splendid specimens of between thirty and forty of the most distinguished masters, Flemish, French, Italian, and English schools. Hutton states in his history of Derby, that "perhaps £200,000. lie under this spacious roof." Such is the number, variety, and costliness of the subjects which the Hall contains. For ourselves we would not presume to form an estimate; but the Hall is not quite what it was since the late Lord's death, as the present Lord does not occupy it, his Lordship's present residence being $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles distant.

The old Church, close by the Hall, is an interesting object,

with its tower heavily covered with ivy. It contains many monuments of the Curzon family; one by Rysbach, of Sir Nathaniel Curzon, is a good monument.

On the outside, upon the wall of the tower, is a dial, and over it the quaint inscription "We shall." It is intended to make sense thus: "We shall" "Di-al;" meaning we shall

all die. Many have been puzzled to decipher this.

It being our intention to proceed to Derby on foot, we made our way across the bridge, struck into a path immediately to the right, which leads to the mineral springs and Kedleston Inn. The springs are a very strong sulphurous chalybeate, which is much esteemed for its antiscorbutic qualities. There is a bath connected with this, and every convenience for those who visit this pretty spot, with a good Inn close by. We were surprised Dr. Granville omitted to name this spring, which is only $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the town of Derby, and the ride from which is one of the very prettiest in this part of the county. Kedleston should be visited from Derby.

After enjoying our dinner at the Inn, we proceeded to Derby over a good road, both sides adorned with very pleasant fields and nursery grounds. On entering Derby we called at Hall's Spar shop to view the curiosities, and then finding plenty of time on our hands before the train left for Ambergate, we proceeded to the Arboretum to enjoy an hour in the delightful grounds, already named in our account of

Derby.

GEM OF THE PEAK.

PART III.

CHAPTER I.

TOUR TO DOVEDALE AND ILAM,

BY VIA GELLIA, GRANGE MILL, TISSINGTON, AND THORPE.

To make the Tour of the Dove, or to gipsy it for a day in Dovedale, is a matter of course to all who come to admire and enjoy the "Wonders of the Peak"—at least if time is not so pressing as to occasion a curtailment in their plans. The first time the author enjoyed this ride, was on a splendid October day in 1832. We were off early, just as the sun was brushing away the mist, which at first hung thickly over the valleys, and then, like thin fleecy curtains, covered the mountain sides, giving an auspicious omen of a sunny day, in which we were not disappointed.

Three friends accompanied the author on that excursion, and two of them coming from a distance, our point of meeting was the top of Cromford Moor, consequently we took the hilly road to Dovedale, which is very interesting, but by no means the best; and on a subsequent visit (made this spring) we changed that route for the Via Gellia,* a ravine of great beauty and deep interest, from the number of wild

plants it contains.

But to describe the route. We proceeded to Cromford, and on passing the Market-place, a sharp turn by some posts takes us westward by the Mill-dam and paint works, where

^{*} So called, because made by the late Philip Gell, Esq., of Hopton Hall, who owned the chief part of the property in the neighbourhood.

pigments of various colours and kinds are manufactured, chiefly by using various materials found in veins and fissures throughout this limestone district. On passing the toll-bar we entered Bonsall-hollow; the rocks on the left are bold and rich in wood, but on the right agreeably varied by a fine eminence projecting into the Dale, round the base of which the road winds. The water-falls along this part are beautiful. Just round this is the Ball Eye, a lofty rugged cliff, the loose rubble and large fragments from which are perpetually tumbling down into the road. On the left are Mr. Simonds's paper mills, and at the foot of the road leading up to Bonsall, is the Cupola, for smelting Lead-ore. Here the lead is smelted and made into "pig-lead," and rolled into sheets by steam power. Here, also, there is an extensive manufacture of red lead, so commonly used as a pigment.

A little above this, on the way to Bonsall, there is a paint mill, the machinery turned by the stream which rolls down, and also a saw-mill, where all the Hopton stone (a dun-coloured limestone) is cut up into flag-stones, and for

ornamental purposes.*

Up this bold part there is just sufficient breadth in most places for the road, and narrow channel of the mountainstream, which, throughout Bonsall-hollow especially, is artificially dammed up to make sheets of water, as preserves for The stream breaking over these has a beautiful effect, and is adorned and mantled on each side by overhanging wood and rock; and the tangled copse and the swelling mountain cannot fail to interest the stranger. About a mile up the Via Gellia, on the right, may be perceived issuing from amongst tall pines, and playing down the steep hill, one of the loveliest mountain-rills anywhere to be met with. The margin fringed with the most luxurious mosses, part of which are every year encrusted by the deposition of limestone contained in its waters, forming a fine miniature layer of Tufa, which has been accumulated in such masses in other parts of the Dale and in Matlock Bath.

We proceeded up the Via Gellia, passing under the tunnel stream of an overshot wheel of the mill to the left. We rapidly wound our way up the ravine, both sides of which present a remarkable sameness, but wild and lonely in their

^{*} All the plinthing round the dining-room at Chatsworth is of this stone, cut here, and polished at Ashford.

aspect, the trees stunted, but the brushwood abundant and fine, filled with game and adorned with wild flowers. We now come to the lovely rill already noticed; and seen on a clear day, its spray reflected in the sun-beam, it is truly a beautiful object, and in this sequestered spot, too, highly interesting. Close by this there is a Swiss Cottage, entirely built of the Tufa found here.

The next object was the toll-bar, erected lately, where two roads meet, one leading to Hopton, the other to Middleton and Wirksworth, which, at one time, was the only road from Manchester through the Peak. We took nearly straight on, still up the ravine, which here becomes a narrow gorge, bounded by steep rocks, and this character it chiefly retains till we emerge out of it entirely, not far from Grange Mill, four miles distant from Matlock. On approaching this the way being considerably on the ascent, the hills, instead of being bold and lofty, are reduced to beautiful low eminences, covered with the richest verdure.* And we observed the bed of the stream in many parts literally covered with the finest water-cress ;- from hence the London market used to be supplied with it. At GRANGE MILL the road takes to the left, while that to Newhaven continues straight on. There is another road to the right by Winster to the Router Rocks and Bakewell. Many parties make a tour by Darley Dale to the rocks, and come this way home, which proves a delightful ride.

We now proceeded up over Brassington Moor; once remarkably dreary and bleak, but now almost everywhere enclosed, and producing good pasture land, and adorned with plantations. On the top, we passed under the High Peak Railway—a deeply interesting object over such steeps. The way from hence is on the descent, and the views fine, the hills broken, jagged, and pinnacled, so much so, that

this part is called the Trossachs.

Proceeding about two miles and a half, and reaching the plain, we came to Eradbourn Mill, where we left the Ashbourne road, passing through a gate on the right, and fording a small stream, (the Schoo). The road now became rutty, uneven, and hilly, and passing through several gates and enclosures, we soon reached the beautiful village of

^{*} In this lofty district, and especially about Brassington, the finest Derbyshire cheeses are made.

TISSINGTON,

which is of considerable interest, from a custom which annually prevails in it; -a fragment of those dark ages when every thing that could be, was pressed into the service of the prevailing superstition, and when the objects of religious veneration were multiplied to an indefinite extent.

The custom in question, that of "Well dressing," is one of the most innocent and beautiful relics of a past age, which doubtless owed its existence to a striking incident which occurred in the history of the Israelites in the wilderness at "Beer," when, as an expression of a grateful heart, for the precious boon of water, they sung this song, "Spring

up, O well; sing ye unto it," &c.

Upon this occasion, the wells or fountains, five in number, are most tastefully and beautifully decorated with a profusion of flowers attached, by means of moist clay, to temporary structures made of boards, and reared over them, and so arranged as to represent a temple or some elegant Grecian The several parts (pilasters, frieze, architrave, &c.) distinguished by using differently-coloured flowers to form them, and ornamented with festoons and numberless other devices, crowns, &c., and always some appropriate text of scripture, the letters being formed by the same means, and placed in the most prominent position.

This festival occurs on Holy Thursday, when all the villagers keep open-house, in the genuine old English fashion, for their friends, visitors, and even strangers. Sir Henry Fitzherbert very liberally throws open his old Hall to all comers upon such occasions. A solemn service is performed at the Church, after which the inhabitants go in procession to the different wells, preceded by a band of music, when the Collects for the day are read, and Psalms and Hymns are

sung in alternate succession.

On leaving the village, we entered the grounds of Sir Henry Fitzherbert, by the Lodge-gate, and had a fine view of his old baronial mansion. The road leads through a splendid avenue of lime-trees to the west entrance-gate, where we crossed the road from Newhaven and Buxton to Ashbourne, and proceeded up Spend Lane, by the Dog and Partridge, to the village of Thorpe, only about two miles distant, where a Guide and Donkeys are in readiness if required. On reaching which, and passing some cottages to the right, we

turned out of the road through a gate into a field, which is the nearest way to, and but a short distance from, the entrance of Dovedale—which is 13 miles from Matlock, 4 from Ashbourne, 17 from Buxton, the same from Derby, and 16 from Bakewell.

DOVEDALE.

CHAPTER II.

APPROACH TO THE DALE, AND IMPRESSIVENESS OF MOUNTAIN SCENERY; GEOLOGICAL CHARACTER AND GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE DALE; REMARKABLE ROCKS, ETC. ETC.

As we descended over the irregular road-way, if it may be so called, full of ruts, and chiefly over the green sward or heathy mountain side, the east end of the Dale began to open before us, Thorpe Cloud rising proudly to the left, Bunster immediately before us, and the lofty point bounding the east

entrance to the right.

There is an indescribable and overpowering majesty in nature, especially in mountain scenery, that it is difficult to account for; it seems not so much to arise from a minute examination of the parts of which it is composed, as from the combined effect of the whole as it is rapidly traversed by the eye, until the mind is completely filled with its vast dimensions, and inspired with a deep sense of its own insignificance and nothingness, as compared with such monuments of creative wisdom and omnipotent power; and that power reigning in supreme though silent majesty around us. We experienced the full effect of this as we made our way from the smiling fields and busy haunts of man to plunge into and examine the deep and narrow recesses of Dovedale, which still retains all its ancient simplicity and beauty, uninjured by the art of man, and its magic charm still unbroken by the intrusion of his dwellings.-It would seem, therefore, that its solitude is that which, combined with its romantic scenery, speaks so impressively to the heart, and which has elicited the admiration of all the lovers of nature, and been the theme of their praise from the days of old Izaak Walton to those of Sir Humphrey Davy. Byron, in one of his letters

to his friend Moore, asks "if he had seen Dovedale!" and assures him that "there are things in Derbyshire as noble as Greece or Switzerland!" In fact, it has been the subject of such repeated observation and remark, that any further description of its beauties might be deemed quite superfluous-and besides, the task is not so easy as at first sight it appears to be, to string together a number of highsounding epithets about lofty mountains, towering crags, abrupt precipices, and a lovely river flowing smoothly or sometimes fretting and foaming amongst them; but to convey to the mind of a stranger a just conception of the Dale, to lead him through all its sinuosities, pointing out its romantic beauties and ever-varying character of rock and cliff, the rippling stream and the foaming fall, without straining and exciting too much the imagination by a false colouring, and yet to rise to the loftiness and beauty of the subject, is a task of no ordinary difficulty; but we must try, if we fail in the attempt.

GEOLOGICAL CHARACTER OF THE DALE.

Dovedale may be said to be a secluded glen, about two and a half miles in length, situate in the upper measures of the carboniferous limestone, of which it presents some good sections, and exhibits some of its most striking features, bold, craggy, and precipitous. Notwithstanding its great length, it nowhere exceeds a quarter of a mile in width, and diminishes from this to the narrow space of seven yards, particularly at the north end, where the river is cooped up between perpendicular rocks, and the tourist is obliged to make his way over rough stones, forming a part of its broken and rocky bed, and where it is utterly impassable in floods.* The Staffordshire, or left hand ridge, forms, with some slight exceptions, one unbroken chain, lofty and precipitous throughout its whole extent, finely crested at the top, with a series of small conical knolls. The right, or Derbyshire side, is broken, craggy, and undulating, and is the only one which admits of a safe, though rude and uneven, footpath up the Dale. The inclination is every where so steep, that notwithstanding the traveller is confined within such narrow limits, yet he may generally descry the loftiest summits, which inconceivably adds to the effect, giving to it a sublimity which it does not otherwise possess.

^{*} The path is now much improved,

In one place it exhibits masses of limestone starting from the mountain side in groups, not unlike pyramids, sometimes beautifully fretted, assuming the character of rich Gothic spires. In others they ridge the mountain like mighty walls, divided and intersected by steep gullies, and in some they are more comparable to the ruins of an old cathedral or castle, with its dilapidated towers and turrets, than the simple effect of nature's giant forces. Let the stranger now imagine these clothed, in part, with mosses, lichens, and the creeping ivy, their bases encircled with the hawthorn and mountain ash, and perhaps a few stunted shrubs or tiny yews inserted into their lofty clefts. The hills bare and steep, sprinkled with dwarf firs, hazels, and ash, enriched with the golden flower of the furze; the limpid stream here forming lovely cascades, or bubbling over its broken bed, again flowing like a glassy mirror around miniature islands covered with osiers, its banks adorned with odoriferous shrubs and flowers of sweetest fragrance, the balmy and refreshing breeze playing down the Dale; and he may then form some faint conception of the romantic character of Dovedale.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DALE.

We shall now attempt to lead the stranger up the Dale. On reaching the entrance, our carriage was dismissed and ordered to ford the river to Ilam Inn, there to await our return from the Dale, as being the most convenient point from Ilam Hall and grounds, which it was our purpose to visit,

and none should omit to do so if possible.

Here we were presented with the first view of the beautiful scenery of Dovedale. As we stood on the margin of the lovely stream, Thorpe Cloud was exhibited in its most imposing aspect—lofty and remarkably steep, and apparently terminating in a cone or circular point, forming, with Bunster Hill, opposite, the stupendous portals of the Dale. Here we beheld the beauty of the stream, which is much enhanced by a series of rough stony embankments, dividing it into numberless cascades of surpassing loveliness. The verdant meadow fringes its margin, and spreads on either hand till it reaches the steep and sterile mountain side.

Here we could fancy we heard the Poet Cotton singing:-

"O, my beloved nymph, fair Dove, Princess of rivers, how I love Upon thy flowery banks to lie, And view thy silver stream, When gilded by a summer's beam; And in it all thy wanton fry, Playing at liberty."

The Dale here attains its greatest width, and is bounded by lofty mountains; the view up is closed by a bold projecting headland, covered with blooming gorses and underwood.

The winding footpath lies over this headland.

On attaining the summit of this eminence, the Dale assumed another and far different character, wild and magnificent in the extreme; every vestige of those changes effected by man being totally excluded, as if this bold and rocky promontory set him at defiance; and well it may, for the obstacles here to his reforming propensities are of no ordinary magnitude. The boldest part of the headland overhanging the river is jagged and broken, crumbling to pieces by the perpetual action of the elements; but yet it presents on the top a broad space covered with the richest verdure, and affording nourishment to the luxuriant hawthorn, crab-tree, and ash, which grow profusely, and furnish an ample shade in which the traveller may enjoy his sandwich, and, at the same time, overlook and delight in (if he loves such scenery) the wild and splendid prospect laid out before him.* Rock is piled upon rock, and mantled with the creeping ivy, beautifully contrasting with their gray pinnacles.

The descent from hence leads through thick and over-

^{*} The Dean of Clogher (Mr. Langton), now laid in his lonely tomb in Ashbourne Church, is said to have met with an untimely death from this point. After regaling himself with his party, he foolishly resolved to ascend the hill with his own horse (which he had brought thus far), and in that buoyant gaiety and fearlessness of spirit which characterize some young people, a Miss La Roche determined to accompany him on his perilous excursion. But they had not proceeded a great way when the ascent, which at first seemed easy, became steep and difficult in the extreme; and the poor horse, unaccustomed to such ground, and overbalanced by the weight, lost his footing, and rolled down the steep. The young lady was caught by her long tresses in the brushwood, and escaped with some slight bruises; the horse also wonderfully escaped after rolling to the bottom in the most fearful manner; but the Dean was so mangled in the fall, that he died in a few days, and was buried as stated. This incident is very properly noticed by most writers on the Dale, and ought to be a warning to all those who are fearless and fool-hardy. Some say the Dean ascended from Reynard's Cave, higher up the Dale; but the guide who accompanied us affirms that he proceeded from this headland, which I think much more likely.

hanging brushwood and stunted trees. The black marble measures emerging on this side, their basset edges form a series of steps, by which the descent is in some measure facilitated. On reaching the meadow, where the Dale expands considerably, we find on the right a number of bold rocks ridging the mountain side, jagged and broken for the most part, and clothed fantastically and beautifully with ivy and creeping plants, the clefts between them filled with the hazel and dwarf ash, and an abundance of indigenous plants, which give a beauty and deep interest to this colossal group, called, "TISSINGTON SPIRES," or the "TWELVE APOSTLES. Beyond these, on the same side, the Dale is finely curved The base, covered with patches of the broken and craggy. fragments of limestone or shingle, is added to, year after year, by the decay of the crag, dreary and sterile indeed, and strangely contrasting with the blooming meadow, the limpid stream, and the sweet flower of the wild geranium, protruding its delicate form through these angular and rude heaps, planted and reared, as the guide would have it, by some fairy hand. On our left we found that magnificent grouping of rocks, styled, from some fancied resemblance,

DOVEDALE CHURCH.—The foliage around the base of these rocks, and from amongst their clefts, is most luxuriant, adding grace and beauty to their majestic forms. The scenery here is so bold, beautiful, and impressive, that few lovers of the pencil could leave the Dale without, if time permitted, transfering its shadowy resemblance to their sketch-books.

Proceeding onward, the Dale becomes narrow and gloomy, till nearing Reynard's Cave, where the hills again recede. In front of the Cave, which was considerably elevated on our right, rises a vast mass of limestone, traversing the mountain side obliquely, and presenting about the centre a well-formed archway of no common dimenions, through which the jagged mouth of the Cave above is seen. The arch is about forty feet high and twenty wide, and may have been formed partly and chiefly by volcanic agency, and subsequently enlarged and rounded off by the erosion of ages. It is perhaps nothing more than a portion of a vein, of which the Cave is a part, and which traverses the hilly range to the eastward. This bold mass has withstood the violent action of those forces which scooped out and formed the Dale.

The ascent to the Cave is exceedingly difficult, and great care should be taken, especially above the arch, where the mould is loose and friable, and gives way beneath the tread. But the view from hence will amply repay the time and trouble. To the right, the Dale assumes its wildest character; becoming a gloomy and cheerless glen, shut in by huge perpendicular rocks, overhung with brushwood—the river fretting and foaming over the rocky bed, and struggling to free itself from the dark recess. The Cave is not spacious, but remarkably uneven and fretted, the roof circular, and giving full effect to the voice, which we failed not to try by attempting a chorus in the Messiah. The effect was magnificent and thrilling—surrounded with such objects as exhibit in legible characters the majesty of God.

After resting awhile, under the full influence of those feelings elicited by our employment, we next visited the adjoining Cave, called Reynard's Kitchen, and then made our way carefully down the fearful steep to explore the remaining

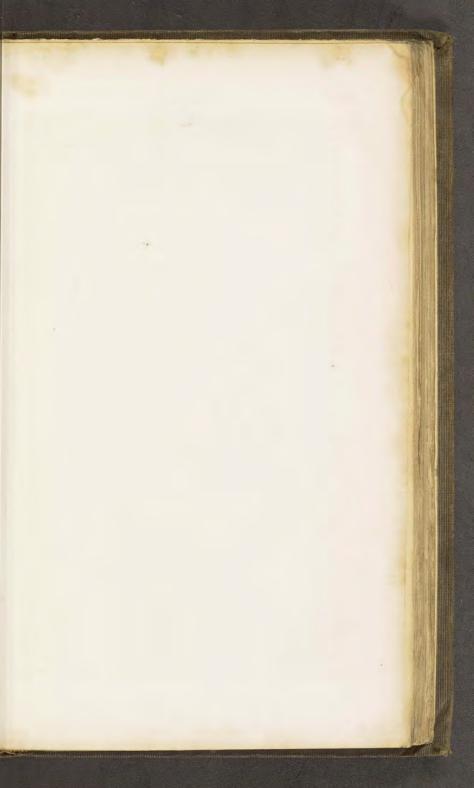
part towards the northern entrance.*

On our descent to the narrow gorge, our ears were saluted by the shrill whistle of the mountain shepherd driving his flock, and the sharp bark of his dog, whom we presently descried on the towering heights above. His appearance at such a time produced sensations of no common nature, and in wonderful harmony with the sublime scenery of this most

magnificent portion.

The path now became more uneven and rugged, and led immediately under the lofty cliff. One bold angle overhanging the stream obliged us to advance close upon it, and, to prevent getting wet, carefully to pick our way over the broken fragments toppled from the cliff and forming part of the bed of the river. We now emerged through a fine rocky portal, The North Entrance, into an open space, where the hills lose in a great measure their bold character, swelling into more gentle eminences, and the river assuming the appearance of a smooth stream. But the view down the Dale is remarkably grand. No description can convey an adequate conception of it to the mind, and no sketch that the author has seen does it justice, being either too much exaggerated or grossly incorrect in the details. The left is bounded by a

^{*} It is said this Cave received its name from a robber called Reynard, who used to frequent it. Parties frequently make this their resting point, take luncheon, and sometimes boil the kettle for tea filled from the pure stream. The necessary fuel is speedily obtained from amongst the brushwood, and the guide is always provided with means to light it.





rock for the most part detached from the mountain, of magnificent dimensions, rising boldly from the very bed of the river, which sweeps rapidly past its base. It is slightly curved on the face, so that the higher part inclines considerably forward. The right is occupied by a jagged cliff, presenting four or five detached pinnacles, starting boldly from its face, mantled with ivy and shrubs. At the extreme point the cliff is perpendicular, and more bold, presenting on the summit an immense square mass (called the Watch-box), or the next tempest which swept down the Dale, would topple it from its lofty position into the bed of the river. The entire view here is of the wildest description.

A little beyond this point, where the valley takes a sudden turn eastward, are the Dove Holes, two large openings in the rock, of some interest, but the tourist is generally contented after having toiled his weary way thus far, and is anxious to retrace his steps to his carriage, or Ilam Inn. Some parties enter the Dale here, coming from the Buxton road, which is not above one mile and a half from hence, and may be reached by taking up the ravine beyond the Dove Holes, by passing over some two or three fields at the top, near to a

farm-house called Hanson Grange.

Gilpin, in his Northern Tour, observes, "that Dovedale is one of the most pleasing pieces of scenery any where to be met with."—And Mr. Jewitt, in his history of Buxton, states, that "it is not in the power of language to do it justice"—and to the artist and the lovers "of rocky scenery" "it affords a treat of the richest kind;" "but to the botanist it is almost inestimable, for there is scarcely a plant indigenous in Britain which may not be found in its luxuriant bosom, or on some of the neighbouring hills." Mr. Rhodes (author of the "Peak Scenery") has also employed his powers with great success in describing this enchanting glen, and the late Mr. J. Edwards, of Derby, has made it the subject of an elaborate poem, called "The Tour of the Dove." On retracing our steps and reaching the foot of Thorpe Cloud, we crossed the stream, and passing over two fields, came to the

IZAAK WALTON, a very nice convenient Inn to all who visit Dovedale either for pleasure or fly-fishing. From hence we proceeded to ILAM HALL, the beautiful seat of Jesse Watts Russell, Esq., which is but a short distance from the Inn.

ILAM.

CHAPTER III.

THE HALL, BEAUTIFUL CENOTAPH OR CROSS, CHURCH AND MONUMENT, HAMPS AND MANIFOLD, SCENERY, RETURN, GENERAL REMARKS, ETC.

The new house, erected but a few years ago, is a castellated structure, chiefly in the Elizabethan style. "This fine mansion, and the lovely scenery around, seem in perfect unison with each other, and when beheld from the road leading along the side of Bunster hill," near the gate, the view is peculiarly rich and beautiful. The grounds are kept in admirable order, and the cottages which we passed are remarkably neat and clean.

At the end of the bridge on entering the village, stands a beautiful Cross fountain, decidedly one of the most admirably executed things we have seen; and the idea which led to its erection and dedication to the amiable lady whose lamented decease it commemorates, is one of the most touching—but we will subjoin the inscription. The Cross is in the style of the florid and highly finished one at Waltham. The form is hexagonal, and the figure heads and body, with hands clasped in prayer, at the terminus of the small arches over the inscription, which very finely finished, are exactly similar to the Waltham Cross. Around the base of the Cross flows a perpetual fountain, divided into six separate parts.

THE INSCRIPTION.

This Cross and Fountain, exected by her Pusband, perpetuate the memory of one who lives in the hearts of many in this Village and Neighbourhood,

MARY CHATTS RUSSELL. 1840.

Free for all these crystal waters flow, Her gentle eyes would weep for others' woe; Dried is that fount; but long may this endure To be a Well of Comfort to the Poor. The cottages here are being much improved. The old ones are removed, and some in the Swiss style are erected

in their stead. We proceed from hence to

THE CHURCH, which stands directly in front of the house. It is an ancient structure; its tower and pinnacles are entirely covered with ivy. On the north side of the church a family vault has been built, and an octagonal gothic chapel erected over it, which contains a splendid production of Chantrey's chisel, a monumental group to the memory of the late Pike Watts, Esq. "In this fine work," observes Mr. Rhodes, "the venerable Pike Watts is represented on his bed of death, from which he has half raised himself by a final effort of expiring nature, to perform the last solemn act of a long and virtuous His only daughter, and her children, all that were dearest to him, surround his couch, and bend at his side as they receive from his lips the blessings and benedictions of a dying parent." Nothing can be more affecting than this family group, which forcibly appeals to the heart, and draws the tear from all who possess a tender and compassionate spirit. Our next point of attraction was to view the beautiful rivers,

THE HAMPS and MANIFOLD, which emerge to the day amidst the sweetest scenery, from beneath the bold cliff, on the southern side of which stands the Gothic Hall. The fine pleasure grounds are here laid out with exquisite taste, and are calculated rather to give effect to nature than detract from her charms. A series of rustic steps and terraces occupies the side of the huge rock, which is thrown up in the middle, forming a kind of saddle, and dipping necessarily both ways, is of geological interest. Underneath this, in two or three natural cavities, are rustic seats, where the lover of nature may retire and meditate on the beauteous objects, crowded, but not unnaturally, into the picture. The smooth, level lawn, interspersed with beds of the loveliest flowers, and shrubs studding it here and there; the fine sheet of water, supplied from the subterranean caves of the Hamps and Manifold*—the weeping ash trees

In the grotto or small cave, just above these, it is said Congreve wrote his Comedy of "The Old Bachelor," and a part of his "Morning Bride."

^{*} There cannot be a question respecting these two rivers, which rise so near to each other, traversing separate channels throughout their course, as this has been satisfactorily proved from their difference of temperature, as well as by using floating bodies, such as corks, &c., and watching their point of exit. They emerge within fifteen yards of each other.

220 ILAM.

drooping on its banks, as if to give a dash of melancholy to the scene: the majestic row of limes bounding this side, and on the opposite the lofty steep hill clothed profusely with a hanging forest, reaching half way to the zenith, and taking a circuit from south-east to north, enclosing the whole, not unlike a splendid Highland glen, and forming something like an amphitheatre, or fine natural aviary; in the ample shade of which the birds of many a hue, and of every variety of cadence, nature's own choristers, warbling their evening song, and making sweet harmony, entrance the soul and make us feel for the moment as if we were tenants of other and kindlier skies. How much of beauty still remains on earth! Dr. Johnson must have felt this in a high degree when visiting Ilam, for it is said he conceived his fine idea of the "Happy Valley," in Rasselas, from this spot.

The House. We do not remember at any time to have visited a mansion, in which both exterior and interior magnificence are in such happy unison as at Ilam. But what rendered the charm to us still greater, was the perfect feeling of domestic comfort which remained undisturbed by the

grandeur which surrounded us.

It would be impossible, in the short space at our disposal, to enter into a detail of the several objects which engaged our attention whilst passing through the various elegant apartments, where nothing appeared omitted that could possibly serve to complete the picture. From the Entrance Hall and Armoury, finished off in oriental splendour, there was "All that mote to luxury invite."

Although Ilam must not be considered as what is termed "a show house," yet we have reason to believe that Mr. Russell has great pleasure in allowing strangers to be conducted through it if they come with a satisfactory introduction. There are some very fine pictures in this house worth

seeing.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Many parties proceed from hence to Ashbourne, and Alton Towers, but as it was not our intention upon this occasion to do so, we returned to Matlock, where we arrived late in the evening, much gratified and pleased with our day's excursion. And who could fail to be otherwise on such a day, and luxuriating amongst such fine objects? The excursion including objects of the first order in nature and art.

The author well knows that some parties return dissatisfied with Dovedale, as indeed they sometimes also do on having visited other striking parts in the Peak, but this must arise from the peculiar state of their own minds at the time (providing they see it under auspicious circumstances); or it may be from an over-excited imagination that needs restraint, for we all ought to recollect that it requires something more than mere external nature, however beautiful and sublime, to please and enrapture that sublime and intellectual spirit which inhabits man's bosom, and constitutes his nobler part. Therefore that spirit should be sobered down to common things, so that it may be raised gradually from a low standard of feeling and conception by the mere effect of the objects presented in rich succession on nature's page, until they are embodied and classed with its own associations, then will they minister some of the noblest, purest, and most delightful sensations, especially if piety and true devotion to our Maker reign supremely in the heart. These ennoble and elevate the spirit to the highest pitch of pleasurable feeling and intellectual glory; because it becomes identified in a measure with things unseen, even high and heavenly, of which the earthly are but the type and imperfect representative. Such an one can say, without presumption, when beholding the lovely and glorious objects which adorn and beautify our nether world,

" My Father made them all."

TOUR TO

ALTON TOWERS,

BY ASHBOURNE, ETC.

CHAPTER IV.

VALLEY OF THE SCHOO.—ASHBOURNE, SITUATION, CHURCH, MONUMENTS.

DRIVE TO ALTON TOWERS.—ORRELL'S HOTEL, FARLEY.—WALK TO
ALTON, REMARKS ON THE HOUSE, ETC.

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS.

On the 8th of October, 1839, a friend (an artist) and myself had determined on a visit to Alton, to judge for ourselves of the beautiful gardens of which we had heard so much.* And we have here to express our thankfulness that our usual good fortune in regard to weather failed us not upon this occasion. Though the morning was rather cold, it was cloudless; and when at noon the sun acquired his full power, it was indeed lovely.

We must refer the stranger to the Dovedale route as far as Bradbourne Mill; whence we kept the direct Bakewell and Ashbourne road up the Valley of the Schoo, instead of turning through the gate as before. We soon observed the pretty village of Bentley, in the middle of the Valley; and near to it, on this side, is a large cotton mill, belonging to Mr. Cooper, of Hanging-bridge. We then speedily reached the Buxton road, once the only London road to that place; and passing the seat of Sir Matthew Blakiston on our left, we shortly arrived at Ashbourne, where we changed horses at the Green Man, and proceeded at a rapid rate to Alton. But as it will be more convenient, we shall first introduce this town, its church and monuments, to the reader.

ASHBOURNE.

This town, originally called Esseburne, † is beautifully

* The author had the pleasure in 1843 of enjoying a trip to this delightful place with the artist (Mr. G. Rowe), for the purpose of sketching it for our third edition of "The Gem."

+ From "asche," or "esche," both Teutonic; the first, properly speak-

+ From "asche," or "esche," both Teutonic; the first, properly speaking, signifying "ashes," the latter, an "ash." From this last and "burn," a small brook, it is presumed the present name is derived. It is said ash trees once abounded here.

situated, chiefly on the steep side of a bold eminence of the new red sand-stone, and on the bank of the little brook already named. The country around is extremely fertile and beautiful; and the traveller will find comfortable quarters here upon all occasions. Its Church, dedicated to St. Oswald, by Hugh Patishull, Bishop of Coventry, in 1241, is in the form of a cross, with a square tower surmounted by a lofty octagonal spire. It contains many monuments, but one in particular of superlative interest, from the chisel of Banks, to the memory of the only daughter of Sir Brook Boothby, who died at the age of five years. The figure of this beautiful child, executed in the most exquisite style, and in the purest statuary marble, is represented lying on her side, reposing, as it were, on a mattress, placed on a suitable pedestal, with the following inscription round it, in four different languages, English, Latin, Italian, and French:-

"I was not in safety, neither had I rest, and the trouble came."
TO PENELOPE,
Only child of Sir Brook Boothby and Dame Susannah Boothby,
Born April II, 1785; died March 13, 1791.

"She was in form and intellect most exquisite. The unfortunate parents ventured their all in this frail bark, and the wreck was total."

On a subsequent visit made this spring we went to view this superb piece of sculpture, and we felt almost rivetted to the spot the moment we beheld that beautiful form, so expressive of complete repose, although there remain on that The prominent sweet face the traces of recent suffering eye-brow, with the sickly depression above it, together with the slightly open lips, indicate this. It lies on the right side, with a slight twist of the body-perfectly natural-the left shoulder inclines forward; the arms are brought up, and the hands placed upon the pillow, close to the face; the fingers of the right hand are slightly bent into the palm; the thumb gently presses the last joint of the forefinger; the feet are carelessly thrown one over the other; the flowing sash which encircles the delicate waist, and the drapery which, like a thin transparent veil, envelopes the figure, have all the wavy and pliable softness of nature itself. The expression of the face is heavenly! We could have wept, nay, we did weep over it, for we too have children, and some angelic cherubs have gone to heaven's eternal rest, and we saw them struggle into that land of sweet peace and everlasting joy, as this child did on whose life the parents' fond hopes rested, so strikingly and beautifully exhibited by this monument.

Our space forbids us noticing particularly the monuments of the ancient family of Cockaine, who once flourished in Ashbourne. We returned to our Inn full of the subject of our visit. It is said that Chantrey was requested to see this monument before he executed his inimitable group of the two children in Lichfield Cathedral, and that he sketched the design for the group before he left Ashbourne.

The church has been considerably altered of late, and repewed, at a great expense. We should advise every stranger

to visit it.

The town contains about five thousand inhabitants, is neat and clean, and has a Free Grammar School and good Libraries, a Bank, &c. It is distant from Matlock 12 miles, 13 from Derby, 20 from Buxton, 9 from Alton Towers, and 139 from London.

In this neighbourhood stands the lonely and somewhat dull-looking cottage in which Mr. Moore wrote his celebra-

ted poem of "Lalla Rookh."

At Ashbourne Hall, close by, on Ashbourne Green, the seat of Sir William Boothby, are some good paintings, and the park and gardens are laid out with great taste.

We now resume our route to Alton, and proceed over a dead flat across the vale of the Dove to Hanging-bridge, about

a mile and a half from Ashbourne.

The scenery here is exceedingly beautiful; the views up and down the silver stream, the bridge, the cottages and mill to the left, and the gentle eminences of the new red sand-stone rising in our front, and gradually blending with the bolder and more lofty mountains of the grit and limestone to the far north and east, would form a magnificent picture.

We took the left hand, or Uttoxeter road, on pasing the bridge, and soon reached the pretty village of Mayfield, where Moore, the poet, lived some time. Beyond this, on the left, situated in the valley, is Calwich Abbey. The road skirts the plantations and grounds of Calwich between Mayfield and Ellaston, which we found beautifully situated on the rise of the hill beyond the lodge gates. The Church and Parsonage House are prominent objects. The road, on reaching this village, to Uttoxeter, turns to the right, down by the small Inn; but not intending to go by the Earl's drive, we pursued the more direct road, by Wooton Hall, to Farley. On clearing the village we observed Wooton Hall, the seat of Davenport Bromley, Esq., on our left, where re-

sided for a short time, in 1766, the capricious and eccentric Rousseau.

We soon arrived at the entrance gates of Wooton Lodge, a fine old castellated structure, said to have been designed by Inigo Jones. The road takes a sharp turn by the gates, and pursuing our way a short distance, a road to the right takes us down a steep hill close by the Lodge. The country here is exceedingly beautiful; we could descry the towers of Alton in the distance, and now and then we obtained a glimpse of Weever's bleak top, over the fertile and richly wooded hills, of which the following passage is highly descriptive:—

"See how majestic Weever's brow Swells from each broken scene below! O'er the wide vales he bends sublime, And triumphs in his polar clime." Vale of Weever.

Descending into a deep and romantic dell, we passed close by the Lodge. The dell we crossed a little further on, and winding up the hill through a thick wood, we soon arrived at the Shrewsbury Arms, at Farley, within a quarter of a

mile of the house.

Alton Towers is distant from Ashbourne 9 miles; 10 from Uttoxeter; 20 from Stafford; 15 from Hanley; 12 from Leek; 5 from Cheadle; 11 from Lane End; 17 from Burslem; 14 from Stone; 17 from Newcastle; 15 from Trentham; 14 from Sandon; 20 from Wolsley Bridge; 22 from Buxton; 21 from Matlock; $24\frac{3}{4}$ from Bakewell; $27\frac{3}{4}$ from Chatsworth, and 22 from Derby.

Having obtained refreshments served in Orrell's best style, and furnished with the needful document, a ticket of admission (only to be obtained from Mr. Orrell), we proceeded

to the Towers.

A short walk by a footpath across two fields brought us within the grounds. On passing a gate the road winds through a forest of pines, which excludes every object from view, till making a sudden turn to the left, the beautiful pile is gradually developed before the eye in consecutive portions. First a broad square tower, which terminates the Picture Gallery, appears over the umbrageous envelope. Then a peep between a clump of evergreens brings into view one of the beautiful oriels of the Elizabethan period. Then the lofty, elegant, and richly ornamented Gothic tower of the

chapel, with others, arrests the attention of the stranger, till, reaching the lawn, this complicated but deeply interesting structure stands in proud majesty before you on the very crest of this elevated portion, overlooking the gardens and the beautiful vales which ramify in every direction around it. It exhibits nearly every order of architecture that has successively appeared from the Saxon era down to that of the Elizabethan. The pointed, florid, and Tudor styles, which sprung up during the middle ages of Europe, are introduced in the construction of this noble pile with considerable effect; so that what would appear at first sight to be an incongruous mass of unmeaning details, is so arranged, and judiciously proportioned one part to the other, according to their several uses, that it forms one complete and harmonious whole, unique in its design and most effective in its general outline. In fact, in this respect, there is nothing like Alton; in the structure of which, especially in the interior, there is more of the florid and rich decorations of the cathedral style than in any house existing, and yet adapted to the comforts and wants of a nobleman of the nineteenth century. We could not help remarking, on passing through the house, that there was an appearance of such perfect comfort, quiet, and repose, as would have induced us to fancy ourselves the only tenants for the time being, and yet we saw it at a stirring period, when the Earl's friends were dropping in ever and anon to take leave, on his departure for Italy.-But we anticipate.

As we advanced along the carriage drive in front of the Towers, the scene became peculiarly interesting. Here we obtained a full view of the north-east front on our right, and on our left was a fine lake, its margin enriched with shrubs, the smooth lawn sloping gently towards it till it seemed to mingle with its placid waters; the whole backed by tall pines, from the midst of which a singular castellated structure rises;* and in our front the Earl's drive, carried on an elevated platform and over a series of bridges, had a singular and even beautiful effect; and to heighten the whole, as we stood alone, strangers in the midst of this lovely scene, and somewhat embarassed, scarcely knowing which way to take, a lady appeared at the nearest oriel with an interesting boy

^{*} These are stables and other offices, which are thus judiciously planted out.





by her side,* whose presence seemed to give life and spirit to the scene. We looked at our card, and found written, "The only entrance by Bridge Gate," which we found by slightly inclining for a short distance to the left. On applying our hand to the bell and giving it a stout pull, the guide appeared to admit us to the next move of the picture, and to a scene of singular enchantment and rare beauty—the Gardens, whose fame has now become universal.

RAILWAY ROUTE.

Before we proceed to describe Alton Towers, we must name the North Staffordshire Railway, which runs through the beautiful Valley of the Churnet, and now connects Alton per rail both north and south. This railway branches off from the Derby and Birmingham about seven miles from Derby, and passes by Tutbury, Uttoxeter, to Alton; the line passing on by Leek and Macclesfield to Manchester, thus opening the splendid domain of Alton Towers both to the south and north, and making it easily accessible from all parts to the public. From the railway rises proudly the Church of St. John, built on the ancient site of the old castle of "Alveton," or Alton, perched on the very edge of a bold and lofty escarpment of the new red sandstone, and near to it a beautiful Chapel and School, and the residence of Dr. Winter; also the Mechanics' Institution; all built by the Earl of Shrewsbury. The village seems partly nestled in a broken part of the cliff near by. This lies on the south side of the Valley, and on the north side appears the towering hanging woods that environ the "Towers." His Lordship has built a nice entrance from the Station into the grounds. Valley is narrow but extremely beautiful, and as we saw it on a fine day this spring, in going for the first time per rail, it was most enchanting. The distance from hence to Orrell's Hotel, at Farley, to obtain our tickets of admission, is about a mile; and then on passing through the grounds we were not a little pleased to find ourselves close upon the Station.

^{*} This lady, as we afterwards understood, was the Countess of Shrewsbury, and the youth was her nephew, the heir presumptive to the Earldom of Shrewsbury and the demesne of Alton.

CHAPTER V.

CENOTAPH, WALKS, HARPER'S COTTAGE, CONSERVATORIES, ALTON HOS-PITAL, CORK SCREW FOUNTAIN, TEMPLE, PAGODA, ETC.

ALTON GARDENS.

On entering the Gardens, the walks appear to diverge in all directions. The usual route now is along the main line, a noble serpentine walk, continuous to the extent of between two and three miles, making the entire circuit of the Gardens and Arboretum. Near the entrance stands the beautiful

CHORAGIC TEMPLE, which Mr. Rhodes observes, is as beautiful as that of the Sybils at Tivoli. It is a copy as large as the original of the celebrated Choragic Monument at Athens, erected in honour of Lysicrates, three hundred and thirty years before Christ. This is commonly but incorrectly called the Lantern of Demosthenes. This temple contains a bust of the late Earl, admirably executed by Peter Hollins. From the shoulders downwards, it is finished in the Egyptian style by a terminus, which we hardly think suits this exquisite and lovely structure; on it is the inscription, "He made the desert smile;" and true he did, for the whole of this magnificent spot was a rabbit-warren only thirty years ago. At the base of the temple there is a monogram of the letter "S," the initial of Shrewsbury, in box embroidery, the space within the scroll-work being filled up with gravel of various hues, which has a pleasing effect.

On rounding an immense clump of evergreens, which thrive here admirably in a light healthy soil on the sandstone, we descend the inclined plane toward the centre of the gardens, and behold shelving tiers of trees and shrubs thickly studded with the spiring hollyhock and the clustering dahlia on the one hand, and on the other the deep fir wood sheltering the Arboretum of exotic trees and shrubs, standing singly or in groups on the bright green grass, whilst before us the spray of the great jet falling upwards of one hundred feet in white flakes in front of the dark pine trees, reflects the sunbeams in the beautiful colours of the rainbow; and as the valley in which we now stand is sheltered and shut in on all sides, turn which way we will, the trees of various climes fringe the horizon, and forbid the ruthless blast from entering

As we proceed along the promenade, this enchanted vale. the great features of the garden are disclosed to us, and we wish ourselves on high ground to be able to overlook the bright objects that surround us. We progress slowly through the Arboretum, lingering to examine some of the finer trees, such as the Cedrus Deodara, that noblest of all known trees, and the far-famed Taxodium Distichum, or Deciduous Cypress, of which Constantine constructed the doors of St. Peter's, that endured eleven hundred years without decay. The modest and pure white water-lily floating on the face of the clear calm lake, next claims our attention; but as the botanical interest of the Arboretum, as well as the garden scenery, changes at every step, it is impossible for the tourist to tell the features of the landscape except from certain fixed points. However, as we ascend the "shady side," the "scalloped wall" begins to appear, with its vase and ivied arches, and the ranges of conservatories and corridors are seen, with their gilded domes and pinnacles. After gaining the level or table land on which the house (or we should rather say, palace) stands, we are conducted along a broad walk between precipitous rocks on the one hand, and the old battle field of Bunbury on the other, to a rustic Observatory, on the shelving ledge of one corner stone, and whence we see eastward down the valley of the Churnet, through which the railway runs, and southward the picturesque village of Alton, with its strong and beautiful stone bridge over the Churnet, and rocks that seem to ride in air, crowned with pine trees that fling their long dark shadows over the plain far and wide, and shelter the grey stone cottages that are in some instances cut out of the solid rock, that never was laid or moved by mortal hands. But the Castle and Hospital form by far the more striking features in this beautifully romantic landscape. The hospital of St. John has a richly adorned Catholic Church and School, built by the present Earl, from designs by A. W. Pugin, Esq., in the style of the pointed architecture of the middle ages. The rooms and refectories for the Warden and Fellows are in progress, the residence for the Schoolmaster is finished, the Church consecrated, and the Free School is now a hundred strong. Castle is ivy clad, and stands on a precipice "fearful dyke and fell," with its moat and fragments of the piers that supported the drawbridge, part of the portcullis, with many a well turned arch and tattered wall, that testify the vast extent

and importance of this fortress, guarded as it has been on one side by its moat and double line of dykes, and on the other relying on its eyrie-like site and rocky fastness, it seems barefacedly to have dared the foe.—Not one habitable apartment now remains, and the court-yards of this ruined keep are now used as the garden of the Hospital of St. John. Leaving the rustic Observatory, we returned by a walk almost under the former one, but some fifty yards below its level, towards the

HARPER'S COTTAGE, where the minstrel's only daughter, in the absence of the "Ancient Briton,"* played merrily for us. When we first visited the Gardens, we were led by a walk which winds through a labyrinth of trees and shrubs, and completely flanks the view of the gardens to this spot. Our surprise was therefore great when, the instant we reached it, the whole of the rich and unrivalled scenery of these magnificent gardens burst upon the view. Here, as if by superhuman power, we were presented with a multitude of beautiful objects; elegant terraces mounting one above another, adorned with statues, busts, tripods, and richly sculptured vases; light and elegant trellis-work, surmounted by brackets, supporting the most beautiful forms, interspersed with the loveliest flowers, native shrubs, and rare exotics; and all these are mere adjuncts to the splendid conservatories, temples, pagodas, classic columns, fountains and pools of water, which fill up this exquisite PICTURE! In fact, such is the richness and beauty of the scene, that we may well exclaim with the poet-

" Visions of glory spare my aching sight."

The tout ensemble may be compared to a gigantic and magnificent nosegay, in which every colour of the rainbow is most harmoniously and beautifully blended. We are not therefore at all surprised that the late E. Rhodes, Esq., author of the Peak Scenery (who has given a glowing description of these Gardens), here "pocketed both book and pencil," finding, as he observes, that "detail and description in such a scene are useless." Language indeed would fail to convey an adequate idea of the glory of such a scene as we now "looked on," which is more "like the baseless fabric of a vision" than a reality, a mere creation of the mind, that seems "not of earth and yet is on it."

^{*} The old harper is since dead.

The Harper's Cottage is slightly elevated above the Gardens, and directly opposite to them, so that we could look down upon all the terraces, which are resplendent with flowers of every hue, and numberless other lovely objects. Seven elegant terraces appear to rise one above another, of various breadth and length, two of which are prettily supported by classic columns, filled between with flowers, vases, figures, &c. On the upper one, of the greatest magnitude, stands the splendid Chinese Conservatory, with its seven domes, three on each wing, and one of superior magnitude rising finely from the centre. This is flanked by two smaller wings, with two domes on each, all surmounted by a highly ornamental balustrade, richly worked. A little to the left of this, on the upper terrrace, is the Quarry Green-house, with two domes and similar enrichments. To the right is the Screw Fountain, and towering above this, on a shelving rock, is the Gothic Temple, of the most elegant proportions, peering majestically from amidst a forest of wood, and overlooking the fairy scene. The intermediate spaces are filled up with fountains and pools, serpentine and terrace walks, sculptures, and all the accompaniments of a magnificent garden, which we leave the imagination of the reader to fill up. Stretching to the left of the Conservatories, is a scalloped wall, covered with exotic trees, and enriched with vases, placed apparently between swelling and graceful arches; and a little behind the smaller one rises the ponderous imitation of Stonehenge.* This gloomy structure, the powerful characteristic of a barbarous age, carries the mind irresistibly back to the era of fable, when all was dark, uncertain, and savage; and appearing here, too, in close proximity with such a scene of beauty, it throws over the whole an air of such wild enchantment, that it is difficult to consider the beautiful pageant before us anything but a mental delusion-a dream in which the mind pictures to itself a series of the most lovely objects above the reach of its power in our waking moments; it seems a glance into a celestial paradise, where nothing that offends can enter.

The Cottage, as well as the bold and steep ridge on which we stood, covered with dark pines and abundance of other trees, was cast into deep shadow, while the sun threw a refulgent light on the beautiful picture, covering it with glory.

The huge stones of which this singular structure is reared are about nine tons each.

Should any one be disposed to think this statement overcharged, we would beg them to suspend their judgment till

they can go and see.

We now left the Cottage and descended the walk till we arrived at the top of the rustic bridge and great cascade, whose murmurs sweetly harmonized with the whole machinery of this vale of fancy; this was another peep of great beauty afforded us of this glorious scene. The broad mass of the pagoda, situated on an island in the midst of a fine lake already glanced at, came fully into view. The grotesque stone-work here, and rustic bridge of undressed oak carried over the fall, add a charm to this secluded part of the Elysian dell. Here we get a glimpse of the Rosarium, a circular parterre, surrounded by evergreens, and the walk forming a volute, thus giving a greater length in a continuous line, and less breadth of border, than could otherwise be given; both of which points being considered essentially necessary to the display of the Queen of flowers, for it is only by close examination that the beauty and rarity of roses are to be known and appreciated. The waters of the Cascade, after passing the Rosarium, form an Aquarium for white and yellow water lilies, and other aquatics, native and exotic, over which a handsome cast-iron bridge connects "the sunny" and "the shady" sides of the gardens, and forms the foot of "Jacob's ladder," which is a serpentine walk of dressed stone, nearly three hundred yards in length, on an inclined plane, with upwards of one hundred steps from the Towers to the centre of the Gardens, thus forming a clean hard walk in all weathers.-After resting under a tree (for here, as well as at intervals all over the gardens, seats are placed where large parties may rest and enjoy the beauties of the scenery), we ascended the Cascade Walk, on the terrace, on which stands the Grand Conservatory. The niches of the wall on our left we observed contained a number of beautiful vases, the shape of the Medicean. This part may be properly called the FLOWER GARDEN, for here stand myriads of dahlias, hollyhocks, and other exquisite flowers. Along the margin of this field of flowers there is a uniform series of beds of exotics, which, like the lace-work on a robe, give a richness and beauty quite recherche to the whole parterre.

We now observed a resemblance of Prometheus on the rock near the Upper Cascade, above which is a sculptured lion, and between each two of these, Asia and Africa. This

is called the Dutch Garden, close to which is the Quarry Green-house; and before this, in the midst of junipers, cedars, and vases, the Lion Fountain; its sparkling waters have a beautiful effect.* We next proceeded to the Grand Conservatories, three hundred feet long, consisting of a central house for palm trees and other stove plants; two glass-roofed open corridors for half hardy plants, and terminated at one end with an orangery, and a house for Cape and New Holland plants at the other. The beautiful plants with which they are stored delighted us exceedingly, but to enu-

merate them would be impossible.

From the Conservatories we passed to a circular alcove, the back of which is pierced by a semi-circular-headed stained glass window, on which is represented a vine, with its clusters and foliage. This alcove terminates the flag-walk in front of the grand Conservatories, and from its outside a beautiful view of the gardens is obtained. Immediately beneath are the terraces, with their parterres, ponds, arcades, and fountains, receding gently from view, till they are lost in the deep ravine below. On the opposite bank, the fine dark foliage of the rhododendrons, vews, and pines, are so intermingled with the lighter-hued foliage of the arbutus and acacia, as to produce a most enchanting effectwhilst, above all, the Swiss cottage peers gracefully from the crest of the oak-crown'd hill. A little further down to the left, in the opening of the valley, the Pagoda Fountain is seen casting its sparkling jet to the height of 100 feet, while far beyond the wooded hills of Dove and Cannock Chase are descried. On the extreme right-

"Rocks through ivy boughs,
With grace majestic frowning,
Like some warrior's brows,
That love has just been crowning,"+

rear their rough summits to the sky, and on one of these the beautiful Gothic Temple (hereafter to be described), has been erected. Almost under our point of view is one of the loveliest terraces that can be imagined, which our guide informed us is called "Lady Mary's Terrace," in compliment

This garden has been entirely re-modelled of late. The four seasons have been removed to "Lady Mary's Terrace," (formerly the Gilded Gate Walk). Hercules and the Lion stands in her ladyship's garden, near the chapel, and Apollo stands in the centre of a small flower garden, on the terrace beneath that on which the conservatories stand.

+ Moore's Irish melodies in describing the beauties of Erin.

to his lordship's daughter, Princess Doria Pamphilia, and to this terrace we now descended. It is about one hundred yards in length, terminated at one end by gates of Arabesque work, and at the other by the casement chamber of the Alcove. On the left hand the scalloped wall displayed its rich treasures; vases filled with scarlet geraniums, on the top; flowers of the tree pœony, jessamine, westaria, and magnolia, glittered against it; at its base a series of chainbeds filled with the choicest bedding plants of the season. Medicean vases, in which fuchsias, calceolarias, salvias, and geraniums, revelled in all their glory, whilst on each side of the terrace-walk a row of Irish yews and standard roses gave a most graceful appearance to the vista. On the right, placed on the parapet of an arcade, are statues of Apollo and the Nine Muses; * below the sloping terrace-bank, and at equal distance from its extremities, are two very pretty scroll parterre's, with statues of the Four Seasons, and dividing these two, on a green knoll or demi-bastion, is a figure of Bacchus and Goat, with a triton fountain in front; and a little further on we observed the water trickling through a stone basin in the form of a scollop shell. Passing through the Arabesque gates, we found our way to the

CORK SCREW FOUNTAIN. This stands in the centre of a pool. It is a column of unequal thickness, with twisted flutes, divided by four broad circular ledges. The water, in dashing over these in succession from the top, has a brilliant

effect. Our next point of attraction was the

Gothic Temple, passing over a rustic bridge, and up by a serpentine walk, affording us peeps of great beauty of the Conservatories, the Gardens, and the noble House; these are the most prominent objects which first arrest the attention, till the eye is attracted by and wanders over lines of vases of iron and marble, stairs, slopes, bridges, bowers, images, gates, &c., in endless variety. We soon attained the lovely and commanding situation on which proudly stands the Temple. Here we observed the first part of the rude and shelving rock, which is a striking characteristic of this side of the valley for about a mile and a half, till it emerges into that of the Churnet. That part of the rock on which the Temple stands hangs over considerably, and appears to be a fine grained micaceous sandstone (the new red) parts of it full of rolled pebbles, in some cases approximating to a

^{*} These have stood in the House Conservatory.

conglomerate. The huge head of a crocodile is here cut out of the solid rock, and has a singular and rather fearful appearance. We ascended to the Temple by rude steps. elegant structure is composed of four stories, and chiefly constructed of iron; a spiral staircase leads to the top; the dome is of stained glass, the effect of which is striking and beautiful on the exterior objects. But who shall describe the beauty, richness, and grandeur of the prospect presented to the eye from this lofty position, which not only commands a view of the entire Elysian scene, circumscribed by these unparalleled gardens, including the house and beautiful grounds; but extends far beyond, over the sharp ridges, bold eminences, and richly wooded ravines of the new red sandstone to the High shut hills to the west of the coal district of Cheadle, and to the bleak and lofty carboniferous mountains of Weever to the north, with the steep ridge bounding the south, which terminates in the lovely Valley of the Churnet.*

VIEW FROM THE GOTHIC TEMPLE.

Here the whole structure of these lovely gardens is placed beneath the eye, with all their glorious and rich furniture, which we shall not attempt to enumerate. No less than seven fountains enliven this scene of wonders with their sparkling

waters; that of the great pagoda is magnificent.+

The column of water, thrown to a prodigious height, falls on and around the structure in broad masses of spray, reflecting in the sunbeam numbers of beautiful rainbows, which have a most imposing effect. Here we had to our right the Conservatories, Screw Fountain, and Stonehenge; to the left, the Pagoda, in the deep ravine, with the most luxuriant scenery; the Harper's cottage peering from amidst the pines of the steep ridge above, stretching down to the Churnet Valley, south-east; and over all, in our front, the magnificent edifice of Alton Towers, in all its breadth of outline and architectural grandeur, crowned the height, with its enriched towers, multitude of embattled turrets, and Gothic windows backed by the lofty "donjon," on which the flag proudly floated in the breeze; it seemed like a fairy palace in the midst of a scene of enchantment. When we beheld it the

Even the Wreckin, in Shropshire, may be seen in clear weather.
 We had the good fortune to see the water-works of the pagoda set in motion on our second visit, which had been out of work for fourteen years.

sun threw a flood of glory on the whole, and from a thousand lovely throats poured forth the sweetest strains of nature's own minstrelsy; the whole valley seemed filled with these feathered songsters; the effect was thrilling.

> "If heaven be ever felt below, A scene so lovely sure as this, May cause a heart on earth to know Some foretaste of celestial bliss,"

We descended from the Tower by rude steps through a natural archway into the long walk which winds along the cliff for a mile and a half; here nature is allowed to sport at will. We shall now carry the stranger more rapidly onward. We returned by a multitude of steps, serpentine walks, &c., along one of the lower terraces; and in a sweet secluded spot is "Le refuge," a recess for repose and refreshments, and afountain in front, with a figure of a Triton blowing the waters through a conch shell. On our way to the gate we passed by a small flower garden raised on a little green tableau, with a statue of Apollo or a young Bacchanate for a centre piece, and immediately underneath, standing in the centre of a long border of quatre-foil chain-beds, we were shown, in an ivied niche, a beautiful full-size figure of Ceres, with a bouquet of corn ears in her right hand, and a wreath of corn round her brow. Two of these, we were told, supported a chimney piece at Haythorp, and cost each £300. When that fine mansion was destroyed by fire, these figures were saved and brought to Alton Towers, where they lay forgotton in a lumber loft for many years, till found by Mr. Whitaker, his Lordship's gardener, and placed one herethe other on an Island in front of the Towers. We passed the Tripod Fountain and Rosarium, and soon reached the gates. By a special privilege, accorded to very few, we were admitted to view her Ladyship's private gardens adjoining the Towers. Crossing the draw-bridge over the Fosse, and ascending the staircase of a square tower, we found ourselves in front of the east, or private entrance, under the shade of some veteran lime trees, and passing through another tower through massive iron doors, entered on a magnificent terrace walk, 24 feet wide, commanding a splendid view of the Gardens and Park, with the dark woods of Ramshorn and Wootton in the background—to the west the Churnet Valley and the wild scenery of the Moorlands was

seen illumined for many miles by the golden beams of the sinking sun, and towards the east, the Valley of the Dove and the heights above, shone forth in all the richness of green sward and waving corn—even the blue hills of Lei-

cestershire were plainly perceivable.

Descending a deep flight of steps, we proceeded through a beautiful rose arcade to her Ladyship's oratory, with a stained glass window, on which is the Virgin and Child, a perfect gem, in Pugin's best style. Retracing our steps, we entered on another terrace, the same width as the last, which conducted us over a bridge to a large geometrical garden, in what is called the "sunk panel" style, being sur-rounded with sloping banks on all sides. Here is a larger "S" than that under the Choragic Temple, and the form is also different. It is adorned with two statues, one a Flora, the other David strangling a Lion. There is a Fountain in the centre of this garden, the basin of which is supported on lions' paws; two vases on which mythological stories are represented stand here also. These two vases represent Jupiter and Vulcan, and are referred to in the Dutch gar-The figure of the parterre is very pretty and unique, and there are also some beds with box embroidery, by which the Shamrock, Rose, and Thistle are formed. Here also we were shown Moore's chair, formed of ivy, the cuttings of which were brought by his Lordship from Petrarch's house at Arqua, and planted by the poet Moore. Passing through the house Conservatory, we entered into another very pretty garden, with its parterres, tree roses, &c., and adorned with four beautiful Terra Cotta Vases. In the centre there is a fountain, the water being thrown through the leaves and petals of a cast-iron lily. These two gardens being overlooked by some of the best rooms, are skilfully laid out and kept in the first order. Proceeding through the Octagon Room and Picture Gallery, we emerged suddenly by a side door into a splendid Gothic conservatory or flower gallery, 76 feet long by 16 wide, and here the sight was truly gorgeous: beautiful climbing plants in full flower covered the bosses and finials; the border was one mass of brilliant colour; the enamelled vases, of various patterns and hues, vied with the flowers in vividness of colour, and even the pathway (in general so unpretending) was robed in the finest colours of blue and buff. The enamelled vases, and encaustic tiles of which this floor is composed, were made at Mr.

Minton's works, Stoke potteries, and deserve to be generally known and introduced. Adjoining this Conservatory, and connected with it, are three other plant houses, a stove, an orchard house, and greenhouse for New Holland plants. In front of these are two flower gardens separated from the ornamental vegetable garden by a cast-iron railing, and the garden itself, six acres in extent, is in great part enclosed by a similar fence. It is crossed by a noble terrace three hundred yards long, terminated by the lofty flag tower, and other walks are terminated by towers also. From this terrace, called "St. John's Terrace," a fine view of the church of St. John and the castle of Alton is obtained; and a little distance from this terrace, but concealed by trees, are the Vinery gardens, where a fine range is now in progress of building. Communicating with this garden and on the same side (the south), are several wildernesses, or rather one great one being a succession of old stone quarries, skilfully planted and transformed into beautiful rock-work, traversed by rural rides and drives, presenting a striking, and at the same time refreshing, contrast to the studied and stately magnificence of the pleasure gardens. From an eminence here, the best view of the Castle, Ruins, Church, Guildhall, and Schools of St. John, Alton, are obtained, presenting an appearance as pleasing as astonishing. The old village, too, seen from this spot, has a very picturesque appearance; and gazing down on the scene, one might imagine he was looking at a castle and village of the Crusaders, or a page of Froissart. The whole of these houses and gardens on the south side are strictly private. They have all been laid out within the last three years by Mr. Whitaker, and when finally completed, little will be needed to fill up the crowning measure of magnificence to which these truly unique and glorious gardens have long had such potent claims. But before we guit the gardens we must retrace our steps to the

PAGODA, which we entered on a subsequent visit. This remarkable structure, had it been finished, was to be ninety-five feet high; two stories only are erected. These stand on pillars, which rest on a base forty feet in diameter. There were to have been six stories, with forty highly enriched Chinese lamps suspended from the angles, and lighted by a gasometer in the lower story. Besides these, there were to have been grotesque figures of monsters projecting over the angles of the canopies, to spout water from their eyes, nos-

trils, fins, tails, &c., and a column of water to issue from the summit of the structure. This extraordinary building was designed by Mr. Thomas Abraham. We approached it by a beautiful Chinese bridge, and took refuge from the descending water under one of the projecting canopies. We much regret this remarkable structure is left incomplete; but we are glad to hear that the sound of the hammer and chisel is again heard thereon. We returned by the carriage drive, which is made along the bottom, and on both sides of the valley, so that the Earl may take in the most delicate parties visiting him, who may be unable to walk, to witness the gorgeousness and beauty of his gardens and grounds. The drive by the valley of the Churnet makes a circuit of three miles.

A day spent amidst such a scene seemed as nothing, and we left it with regret to visit the house, but before we do so, we shall quote a MOONLIGHT SCENE at Alton, given by a friend of the late E. Rhodes.

MOONLIGHT VIEW.

"In the early part of autumn he passed a few hours here, and after perambulating the grounds for some time, he took up his station on the bridge that separates the lawn from the gardens. He leaned upon the balustrades, contemplating the subdued glories of this enchanting place. The minutiæ of detail was lost in bold and imposing masses. The dark pines which cover the hills that form the two sides of the valley, marked the extent of the scene. The glassy domes of the conservatories, and the golden ornaments with which they were enwreathed, glittered in the silvery light. Statues, busts, urns, columns, vases, and temples, were dimly seen in the various walks, and the bright lake, with its picturesque water tower, filled up the hollow of the vale. The temple on the highest hill on the left, and the Swiss Cottage, the residence of the Welsh harper, nestled amongst the pines on the right, were touched with the mild light of the broad harvest moon, and the whole scene was delicious. The owl was heard occasionally hooting amongst the trees; but the song of the nightingale, which, but a few months before, was heard in every recess of the valley, was now silent. The evening was singularly beautiful and tranquil; not a cloud was in the heavens, and every thing around seemed hushed

and soothed into the deepest repose. Such was the night scene which my friend enjoyed at Alton Towers."*

GEOLOGICAL CHARACTER OF THE VALLEY.

The character of the country in the neighbourhood of Alton is singularly beautiful; and its own immediate site, pre-eminently so. For miles around, except to the north, the new red sandstone on which it stands assumes a far bolder character than is peculiar to it in most other parts of this country; instead of the gentle swelling eminence, we have bold, steep, sharp, ridgy hills, broken up, and presenting deep ravines and valleys of great beauty, with one or more craggy sides; the vales of Weever, to the north-east of Alton, so celebrated, form part of this district, and the same character is exhibited on the Cheadle side, westward; and south, on one of these sharp bold ridges, overlooking a scene of loveliness, stands Alton, immediately above the village of that name, and within a short distance of the ancient Castle of Alveton, which occupies the south of the valley of the Churnet. Alton stands slightly on one side of the termination of one of these valleys or glens. Where it commences at the deep valley of the Churnet, about a mile and a half distant, it assumes all the bold characters named; the north side is craggy, the rocks overhanging considerably in places, evidently scooped out and undermined by the action of power-They consist of a fine micacious sandstone; ful streams. some of the top-beds are full of rolled quartz pebbles. Thomson's rock, on which stands the Gothic Temple, as already observed in our account of the Gardens, terminates the cliff on this side, but we suspect it was originally continued further up, nearer the house, and that the late Earl took advantage of this character to form the splendid terraces, which rise majestically one above another now, covering the originally rude cliff with beauty and grandeur. It will be no hard matter for the reader to imagine the difficulties to be overcome before such a work could be effected. This side gently rising just above and beyond the gardens, ends in a table-land, which is continued towards the village of Farley to the westward. The other side of the valley at its commencement is not craggy, but amazingly steep, forming an angle of at least forty-five degrees with the horizon; this

^{*} Tourist's Guide, page 234.

character it retains as far up as the Swiss Cottage, where it becomes less so, and soon loses itself in front of Alton in the table-land, like the other side. This valley is exceedingly narrow, and takes a slight curve southward near the bottom, and is covered everywhere with the pine, fir, larch, &c., even to profusion. Where it commences at the valley of the Churnet, it is about three hundred feet deep. At the top of this romantic glen are situated the lovely gardens of Alton. Above Farley, the whole country gradually rises to the north-west, and abuts against, or laps on to the grit, which is slightly developed here, and then succeed the lofty and bleak limestone hills of Weever, about three miles distant; hence, from the table-land and all this elevated portion, sufficient water has been obtained* to form all the lovely pools and lakes, as well as to supply the seven fountains which adorn the Gardens. These Gardens chiefly occupy the north side of the valley; hence they have the double advantage of being screened from the north, and of receiving every gleam of sunshine from the south.

With these remarks we shall conclude our brief, and, what we must feel, imperfect sketch of Alton Gardens.

CHAPTER VI.

HISTORY OF ALTON—ARMOURY—PICTURE GALLERY—TALBOT GALLERY—OCTAGON—HOUSE CONSERVATORY—DRAWING ROOMS—CHAPEL—STATE ROOMS, ETC.—RETURN HOME.

BRIEF HISTORY OF ALTON.

THE manor of Alveton, or Alton, with the surrounding estates, has descended to the noble family of Talbot through the feudal houses of de Verdun and Fournyval, by the marriage of Sir John Talbot with Maud, daughter and heiress of Nevil, Baron Fournyval; which title Sir John took in right of his wife until the death of his niece Ankaret; when he came into the possession of the honours and estates of his own illustrious family, whose baronial titles he then assumed

^{*} The water is brought from a spring two miles distant, at the foot of Weever hill.

until they became merged in the higher ones of three earldoms that were conferred on him by Henry VI., and which have descended, with the estates, to the present noble possessor, John, sixteenth Earl of Shrewsbury, Waterford, and Wexford.

The de Verduns resided at a castle now in ruins, which stands on a lofty rock near the village of Alton, and commands the romantic valley of the Churnet. The castle does not however appear to have been used as a residence by any of the Talbots since the time of the great Earl, who occasionally visited it during the intervals between his French campaigns; but their retainers continued to garrison it down to the period of the civil wars, when it was dis-

mantled by the Parliamentarians.

The principal residences of the Earls of Shrewsbury were Sheffield Manor, in Yorkshire; Worksop, in Nottinghamshire; and South Wingfield, in Derbyshire; until the time of James I., when George, the ninth Earl, made the fine old mansion of Grafton Manor, Worcestershire, his chief seat, and where also his successors continued to reside until it was in a great measure destroyed by fire, in the reign of Queen Anne; when the Earl, who had been elevated to the Dukedom of Shrewsbury, immediately built a magnificent house at Heythorp, in Oxfordshire, which became the principal family seat.

On the succession of Charles, fifteenth Earl, to the title, he made a tour of his estates, and on arriving at Alton, was so much struck with the beauty of the situation, and the splendour of the surrounding scenery, that he resolved to give it additional charms by forming picturesque gardens, and appropriate embellishments; and also by adding a few apartments to a house which had been formerly occupied by a steward, render it fit for his occasional reception, with a small He no sooner entertained the design than he began to carry it into effect, by employing a great number of professional persons, mechanics, and others, but all under his own immediate superintendence. He became so interested in these improvements, that he carried them far beyond his original intention, adding acre after acre to the gardens, and room after room to the house, until he determined to make Alton Abbey, as it was then called, his principal country residence; for that purpose, he made considerable additions to the mansion, to render it fit for the accomodation of his establishment. These additions having been made at different periods, and by different architects, as necessity or convenience required, and without any general design, its appearance is perhaps more picturesque than symmetrical—more fanciful than correct, in an architectural point of view.

His lordship directed his attention, however, principally to the gardens and pleasure-grounds, erecting the splendid conservatories, which at that time were unrivalled; and even at the present day, though they may be surpassed in extent by some others, they certainly are not for splendour and elegance of design. He continued his improvements with unremitting ardour up to the period of his death, leaving the grounds, which he had found a rabbit-warren, covered by the most beautiful hanging gardens in Europe. The motto affixed to the base of the noble cenotaph erected to his memory, near the entrance to the gardens, truly says—

" De made the Desert smile."

The present Earl, possessing a similarity of taste with his uncle, on succeeding to the family honours, continued his works in the same spirited manner. Finding the mansion too small for his family and retinue, he built the noble series of galleries, with the immense wing containing the state apartments, and the beautiful chapel; making Alton Towers one of the most magnificent residences in the kingdom, and befitting the rank of the ancient and illustrious house of Shrewsbury.

INTERIOR.

On leaving the gardens we passed through a lofty archway, which is surmounted by a massive machicolated tower, containing several pieces of ordnance, and proceeded between embattled walls, decorated with escutcheons carved in stone, and charged with different quarterings of the family: besides the lion rampant, proper to the house of Talbot, and their ancient coat,* we recognized the armorial ensigns of the warlike Nevils, the Fournyvals, and de Verduns, with others of the proudest and mightiest of the old feudal chieftains.

^{*} The ancient arms of the Talbots were, bendy of ten, argent and gules; but Gilbert Talbot marrying in the thirteenth century Gwndaline, daughter of Rhys ap Griffith, Prince of Scuth Wales, he assumed, gules, a lion rampant; or, within an engrailed bordure of the last;—the arms of the Princes of Wales, which have continued to be borne by his descendants down to the present day.

Arriving at a curvilinear flight of steps which winds towards the carriage-road, as if inviting us to approach, we ascended to the lofty entrance tower, and gave notice of our presence.

> " A knock alarmed the outer gate, And ere the watchful porter stirr'd The tinkling of a harp was heard."

The immense iron-studded doors swung slowly on their massive hinges, and we were ushered by a porter, clad in full costume of his office, into the

ENTRANCE HALL. This is a remarkable apartment, and both from its peculiar lofty structure and appendages (not the least peculiar of which was the Old Blind Harper*) we are forcibly reminded of the days of Bardism, and an age long gone by. It is hung round with shirts of mail, halberds, and spears, intermixed with the heads and antlers of various beasts of the forest, + faithfully representing the two great occupations of the ancient barons—war and the chace. The old and blind Welsh harper, seated in the corner on our first visit,

> "Whose garb was fashioned to express The ancient English minstrel's dress: A seemly gown of Kendal green, With gorget closed of silver sheen,"

was playing on his native harp in ancient strain,

" In varying cadence, soft or strong, He swept the sounding chords along."

Over his dress he wore a silver harp and silver medals, which had been presented to him for his skill, and his whole appearance was in perfect keeping with the character of the

Having signed our names in a large folio kept here for that purpose, the porter threw open the folding doors,

> " And in a moment through the gloom were seen, The pendant banners waving in the air, With orient colours glowing; and with them A forest of huge spears and thronging helms, And serried shields in thick array;"

presenting to our view a magnificent suite of galleries, nearly five hundred feet in length, filled with objects, alike

* Lately dead.

+ A buck's head was anciently considered an acceptable present, as well as an appropriate ornament: in 1594, Roger Manners, writing to the Earl of Shrewsbury, says, "Mr. Bucknall thanketh your lordship for the stagges hedd......he woll place it not in the stable, but upon the en ry of his house."—Lodge Illus. of Brit. v. iii. p. 69.

interesting to the antiquary, painter, and poet. We shall attempt, however feebly, a slight description of the various apartments. The noble one in which we now stood was

THE ARMOURY.-Nearly one hundred and twenty feet in length, of proportionate width and loftiness, is surmounted by a fine oak roof, slightly pointed, and supported by arches springing from corbels, and enriched with bosses and rosettes, variously tinted in the ancient style. A number of funeral banners are suspended in the air, emblazoned with the quarterings, and showing the splendid alliances of this ancient house; at the farther end hangs the Banner of Ireland, which was borne by the present Earl at the interment of William IV., in right of his office, of hereditary Lord High Steward of that country; it is much larger than the others, made of purple silk, and charged with the golden harp. But the most striking object is a magnificent equestrian figure of the "great Talbot," clad, with the exception of his helmet, in complete armour, and having over all, his mantle of the garter, with the insignia splendidly embroidered: on his head is an antique coronet, and in his hand he bears a fac simile of his celebrated sword, with the well known motto:

Igo sum Talboti pro bincere inimicos meos.

The armour of the horse is completely covered with housings, having the Earl's arms and quarterings emblazoned thereon. The whole is elevated on a richly carved oak pedestal, in front of which lies the old veteran's war helmet. On stone brackets, which project from each side, stands a great number of figures of warriors in complete armour, holding in their hands lances, swords, or battle-axes, their helmets surmounted by raven or party-coloured plumes, which, nodding in the current of fitful air, caused by the opening of some distant portal, seemed as if they welcomed us into their hall. Besides these, there are portions of suits, of different eras and elaborate workmanship, hung around and intermixed with weapons of all ages and countries; -the tomahawk of the North American Indian, the inlaid scymitar of the luxurious Asiatic, and the rude club of the South Sea savage; crossbows of the twelfth and sabres of the nineteenth centuries, the seal-skin dress of a New Zealand Chief, and the iron panoply of a feudal baron. In the centre, are massive oak tables, covered with models of cannons, mortars, &c.; on the first table we particularly noticed two fine bronzes; one of

Charles Martel, on horseback, in a death-struggle with a Saracen; the other Jeane d'Arc, also on horseback, in the act of piercing with a lance a prostrate warrior whom she has just overthrown. Along the sides are a number of old carved chairs and seats of antique form, with a variety of fossils, and immense heads of the elephant, hippopotamus, and rhinoceros. Large Gothic lanterns of a beautiful design hang from the roof; and a subdued light is thrown over the whole from lancet windows filled with stained glass. Winding our way slowly among the multitude of interesting objects, we arrived at a rich open screen* of halberds and spears, most tastefully arranged, surmounted by a portcullis, and forming folding gates, through which we passed into the

PICTURE GALLERY. This noble room, with its splendid contents, forms a striking contrast to the Armoury. There we were surrounded by the grim representatives of the steel-clad barons of other days, with the evidences of their occupations and amusements; but here we beheld on every side the most angelic forms the mind of man can conceive; every object proclaimed peace, refinement, and safety, and bore witness to the cultivated taste of the present age.

The Picture Gallery corresponds, in its general architectural features, with the Armoury, but is of much larger dimensions, being nearly one hundred and fifty feet in length; the ceiling is of oak, pointed and supported by nine light arches, which spring from corbels formed of Talbot dogs, holding in their fore-paws shields with the family arms. Between the arches are lights of ground glass, throwing a softened radiance over the beautiful productions beneath. Suspended from the ceiling are seven fine gilt chandeliers, and in the centre of the Gallery are tables of oak, and others with slabs of rich Italian marbles, on which, besides catalogues and works on art for the convenience of visitors, are placed large glass cases, containing some very fine fossil remains, as well as other interesting objects connected with geology. At the farther end stands a lofty candelabrum of Sienna marble, most exquisitely sculptured with figures in alto relievo. But all these are merely accessaries to the noble assemblage of paintings which adorn the walls; for here are specimens of every country, and almost every master celebrated in the annals of art; for instance, the brilliant colour-

^{*} This truly elegant screen was designed by the present Countess of Shrewsbury.

ing of Titian and Veronese; the angelic forms delineated by Raffaelle, Guido, and Carlo Dolce; the beautiful productions of the Spanish Velasquez and Murillo; with the more domestic but highly finished subjects of the Dutch and Flemish Schools.

CATALOGUE OF PICTURES.

The greater part of the collection once belonged to Madame Lætitia, Buonaparte's mother. The Earl bought the whole of her gallery some years since at Rome: the following account of the principal paintings is extracted, with some alterations and additions, from Dr. Waagen's "Art and Artists in England," vol. iii. p. 249. We observed of

THE FLORENTINE SCHOOL.

Raffaelle.—The Virgin and Child with two angels. A very delicate finished picture, of the early period of his master.

Andrea del Sarto.—The Portrait of his Wife. Spirited and animated; very clear in the colouring.

Venusti.—The Descent from the Cross. One of the finest compositions of M. Angelo, and executed by one of his

best masters.

Albertinelli.—The Virgin kneeling, in a Landscape.
P. Nelli.—Copy of the Madonna di Casa Colonna.
Rosso Fiorentino.—The Virgin and Child with Joseph.

Alessandro Allori.—Pope Paul V. as Cardinal. A delicately conceived and very carefully executed picture. 2. A Holy Family. In a clear tone, highly finished in the details.

Cristofaro Allori.—Judith with the head of Holofernes, attended by an old woman. Very animated—the colouring excellent.

ROMAN SCHOOL.

Guilio Romano.—Study of a head of Julius II. after Raffaelle. Caravaggio.—The destruction of Pharaoh in the Red Sea. Spirited in the composition and execution.

Garofalo.—The Wise Men's Offering. In the composition, we recognize this scholar of Raffaelle; (in the glowing colours, his original descent from the Ferrara school.)

Baroccio.—A Madonna. A genuine careful picture of this master.

Dom Feti.—Jacob's Dream. Figures, the size of life; a very good picture, executed in a silvery tone.

VENETIAN SCHOOL.

Giorgione.—Portrait of Aretino, the Satirist. Of very noble conception and character.

Pordenone.—The Death of Peter Martyr. Very much distinguished by composition, and nobleness of character, and warmth of tone.

Palmer Vecchio.—The Birth and Death of Adonis. Two very spirited little pictures.

Bonifaccio.—The Return of the Prodigal Son. Figures, the size of life, in a wide poetical landscape. A chef d'œuvre of this master, of his best time, in which his pictures were more penetrated with the genius of Titian than that of any of his other scholars; of a very large size.

Paris Bordone.—In a beautiful Landscape, are Mary, Elizabeth, and Joseph, asleep, and the Child Jesus and St. John playing together. Figures about one-third the size of life. More noble in the heads than in general, and of an unusual depth and glow in the colouring. 2. A good male Portrait, Giacono Bassano.—The Nativity, painted in a splendid golden tone.

Bassano.—A fine Portrait of Pius V., seated in a chair, giving his blessing.

Tintoretto.—1. Joseph's Dream. Particularly warm and clear in the tone of the flesh, rich and poetical in the Landscape.
2. The Angels appearing to the Shepherds. A spirited sketch.

Veronese.—1. Mary Magdalene washing the feet of Christ in the house of the Pharisee. A large sketch of the celebrated picture now in the Louvre. 2. Portrait of a Woman. Of great delicacy.

Marco Ricci.—The Wise Men's Offering. Unusually decided in the forms, well conceived in the characters, and powerful in the colouring for this late master.

SCHOOL OF THE CARRACCI.

Dionysius Calvart.—The Virgin presents the Child to St. Francis; angels around them. Altar-piece.

Guido.—1. The Magdalen and two Angels. Of astonishing power and warmth of colouring. 2. A Youth presenting the head of St. John the Baptist. Interesting in the character, and delicate in the touch. St. Benedict at his Devotion. Broadly and carefully painted.

Guercino.-1. St. Mary of Egypt, whole figure, the size of

life. In brightness and clearness of tone approaching Guido. 2. St. John, whole figure, size of life. 3. The Entombment. Noble in the attitudes and carefully finished. 4. Portrait of himself. Spirited in the conception, warm and clear in the tone.

Domenichino.—The Portrait of a Boy, and a dark Landscape. Gobbo dai Frutti.—Two large pictures, with an astonishing

fulness of beautifully arranged fruits.

Claude.—A Landscape of his later period, with Tobit and the Angel.

NEAPOLITAN SCHOOL.

Spagnoletto.—1. Archimedes. Of powerful effect, and great excellence in the execution. 2. His own Portrait, represented as looking in a mirror, of equal merit. 3. St. Peter.

SPANISH SCHOOL.

Murillo.—1. St. Theresa praying, in a beautiful Landscape.
A picture of astonishing effect. 2. The Preaching of St.
John the Baptist. Handled in a sketchy though masterly manner.

Velasquez.—A splendid Portrait of Philip IV., of Spain.

Alonzo Cano.—St. Francis, with the Infant Jesus and the Virgin. Whole figures, the size of life. A devout feeling pervades this picture, which is painted in a warm powerful tone.

Moya.—A jovial party. Full of spirit; painted in a clear

tone.

Villa Vicenzia.—Joseph embracing the Child Jesus, while the Virgin is occupied in sewing. The picture, which is very dark in the shadows, aims at striking effect.

FRENCH SCHOOL.

Le Sueur.—Dead Christ, mourned by his friends, standing at the foot of the Cross.

Subleyras.—The Fall of Simon Magus; which has been executed in Mosaic, in St. Peter's, at Rome.

Joseph Vernet.—A Misty Morning on the Sea. In a cool but

true tone.

David.—Belisarius sitting by the road side, blind, accompanied by a boy receiving alms from a woman; he is recognized with grief and astonishment by a soldier. This picture obtained for the painter a seat in the Academy of Arts at Paris.

FLEMISH AND DUTCH SCHOOLS.

Van der goes.—The Virgin standing, holding upon her arm the infant Jesus, who is blessing a kneeling figure presented by St. Anthony. Marked in 1472, in figures of the shape usual about that time.

Van Eyck.—A very pretty small Altar-piece—Triptych.
The centre picture represents the Virgin and Child upon
her lap; above are two Angels with a crown; below, two
others. The doors; inner side, St. Agnes and St. John;
outside, St. Lawrence and St. Dorothy.

Rubens.—The Wolf with Romulus and Remus. A spirited composition.

Vandyck.—1. Abraham visited by the three Angels. Painted in a deep golden tone. 2. A Holy Family. 3. The Martyrdom of St. Sebastian.

Snyders.—1. Dead Game and Fruit. A rich masterly picture, clear in the tones and carefully executed. 2. A Dog seizing a Fox with two Cats. Very spirited. 3. A magnificent Lion Hunt, of large size. 4. Tigers chasing an Antelope.

Peter Boel.—Poultry and Dogs. An admirable picture of this rare master. It is painted in a full warm tone, and the impasto is very extraordinary.

Honthorst.—Ecce Homo. More noble in the heads than usual, and with his accustomed force of colouring.

G. Lairesse.—The Disgrace of Haman. A very capital and well painted picture; the figures of Ahasuerus and Esther are Portraits of Louis XIV. and Madame de Maintenon. Paul Moreelze.—A Female Portrait. Extremely clear and

delicate.

Jan Steen.—Playing at Toccadille and Cards. Two very pretty little pictures.
Molenaer.—A Tailor's shop. A capital picture of this master.

Molenaer.—A Tailor's shop. A capital picture of this master. Jan Baptisie Weenix.—A Gentleman and Lady on horse-back, hunting. Admirable in composition and clearness of tone.

Philip Wouvermans.—1. A Stag Hunt by the Water side.
Very distinguished by its size, the richness of the pleasing, composition, the clearness and warmth of the colouring.
2. The companion—A Hawking Party in a mountainous country. These are perhaps the finest pair of Wouvermans in England.

Lingelbach.—1. A Blind Harper reposing. Powerful in the tone. 2. A Hunting Party reposing.

Rondhard.—A Bear Hunt. A capital picture for force and

warmth of colouring; and two others.

Koning.—A thickly wooded Country. In a warm Rembrandt-like tone, with very spirited figures by Van de Velde.

Van der Neer.-A Landscape by Moonlight. Remarkable

for size and composition.

De Wille.—Interior of a Church. Extremely pleasing, from the clearness and brightness of the masterly chiaro-scuro, and the delicate touch.

Ommagank .- A large Cattle piece.

There are also some large, and very rich, choice pictures by the great fruit and flower painters, David de Heem, Mignon and Rachael Ruysch, and also a still life by the admirable De King.

GERMAN SCHOOL.

Hans Holbein.—Portrait of a Man. Of his second period. Cranach.—A Female Portrait, half the size of life; remarkably careful in the execution, and in a very warm tone.

Denner.—Portraits of a Man and his Wife. Both of them of the number of his carefully painted heads, and in a clear tone.

The foregoing list comprises but a small portion of the contents of the Gallery, being confined to a few of the more

remarkable specimens of each School.

We quitted this splendid apartment with regret, and entered the Octagon.—We say with regret, because, as every lover of the fine arts can bear us out (and testify in his own individual case), we could have lingered hours, nay, days, in examining and admiring the sublime and beautiful offsprings of human genius, that here so strikingly exhibit a rich creative gift of the Almighty hand to man, and an emanation of the Divine mind, which supereminently distinguish our species above the brutes that perish.

THE OCTAGON.—This is a noble hall, 50 feet in diameter:

"Where the tall shaft, that mounts in massy pride, Its airy branches shoots from side to side; Where elfin sculptors with fantastic clue, O'er the broad roof their wild embroidery drew," The lofty and beautiful roof, like that of the Chapter-house of Wells Cathedral, after which it is designed, is supported by a single clustered column in the centre, from the enriched capital of which radiate numerous ramifications, having their points of intersection relieved by bosses sculptured into elegant wreaths and clusters of foliage, tinted with various colours. In four of the sides are lancet windows, filled with stained glass: three of the other sides are occupied by lofty doorways, enriched by finely wrought stone screws; and the last is filled with a beautiful stained glass window, exhibiting the effigies of five ecclesiastics of this noble family who have attained the episcopal or archiepiscopal dignity. The figures are the size of life, and represented in their pontificals, which harmonize with the ecclesiastical tone of the building. Above the arches are shields bearing the arms or cognizances of various feudal barons whose estates and honours have descended to the present earl.

Over the door which leads from the Octagon to the Picture gallery is an heraldic scroll containing a sort of para-

phrase on the family motto, " Prest d'accomplir."*

Large Gothic lanterns, corresponding with those in the armoury, richly gilt and coloured, are suspended from the roof.

The Octagon contains some fine statuary; viz. colossal

* "Ready to accomplish." The book containing these and other verses on the mottoes of a few of the most ancient and distinguished nobility was found by accident a short time ago in the British Museum. It appears to have been written in the reign of Elizabeth.

"The redie minde regardeth never tople, But still is Prest t' accomplish heartes intent; Abrode, at home, in every coste or sople The dede is done, that inwardly is mente, Which makes me sape to every virtuous dede F am still prest t' accomplish whats decreede.

But byd to goe X redie am to ronne, But byd to ronne X redie am to ride, To goe, ronne, ride, or what else to be done, Speke but the word, and soon it shall be tryde; Tout prest je suis pour accomplir la chose Par tout labeur qui bous peut faire repose.

Prest to accomplish what you shall commande, Prest to accomplish what you shall desire, Prest to accomplish your desires demande, Prest to accomplish heaven for happy hire; Thus do X ende and at your will X reste, As you shall please in every action prest." busts of Jupiter, Juno, the late Emperor Alexander of Russia, and Pitt: candelabri, magnificent Egyptian vases, tripods, &c.; but the most interesting object is a copy of the tomb of the great Earl of Shrewsbury, taken from the original in the porch of the church at Whitchurch, Shropshire.* The venerable old warrior is represented in a recumbent posture, clad in armour, partially covered by his mantle of the garter: his hands are closed and uplifted as if in prayer; his feet rest on a Talbot; while his head, encircled by a coronet, reposes on his brassart. Around the tomb is the following inscription in black letter:—

Orate pro anima prænobilis Domini, Domini Johannis Talbot, quondam Comitis Salopiæ; Domini Furnival, Domini Verdun, Domini Strange de Blackmere et Marechalli Franciæ; qui obiit in bello apud Burdeux. 7 Julii MCCCCLIII.

Immediately opposite the Picture Gallery is a flight of steps surmounted by a lofty and magnificent oak screen, the folding doors of which open into the "Talbot Gallery;" but as we wish our description to proceed in the same route as

* The Earl was buried in this spot by his own express desire, and tradition gives the following interesting story for the circumstance.

In one of his battles in France, he was struck by a bolt from a cross-bow and fell, severely wounded, from his horse. As he was some distance from any considerable body of his troops, the French soldiers rushed furiously to seize as a prisoner their most formidable and most dreaded enemy, him whose name alone carried terror into every castle and cottage through the broad realm of France, or if foiled in that, to finish if possible the campaign and his career at one blow. His faithful body guard, however, which was composed of his own immediate followers, those who held lands of him in Shropshire by feudal service, seeing the danger of their beloved chief, flew like roused lions to the rescue. A terrific conflict ensued around, and even over the old warrior, who was still lying on the field. The struggle was maintained with undiminished fury for a considerable period; the shout of "St. George for Merry Englaunde," was fiercely auswered back by the cry of St. Denis for France." Each party fought hand to hand; the casques of the combatants rang with the heavy blows of the battle-axe; not only the fate of the present battle, but of the whole campaign; the war itself depended on the result of the isolated combat. Many a stalworth Shropshire Yeoman, shouting from his hoarse throat his leader's war cry, "A Talbot to the rescue," threw aside his weapon, which in the thronged confusion of the mélée, he had not space to use, and springing furiously at his adversary, seized him with an iron grip, from which death alone could liberate him.

The conflict ended at last in the entire defeat of the French; and the Earl, to show his gratitude to his brave followers, many of whom had lost their lives in defending his, told the survivors that in memory of their courage and devotedness that day, his body should be buried in the porch of their Church, that, as they had fought and strode over it while living, so should they and their children for ever pass over and guard it

when dead.

the visitor, we shall, instead of continuing in a direct line, turn to the right, and by another flight of steps enter a vestibule, which contains an elegant candelabrum of Carrara marble, and busts of Cicero, Seneca, Napoleon, &c. This

vestibule communicates with, and forms part of,

THE HOUSE CONSERVATORY, which is of elegant design, and nearly one hundred feet in length. The roof and sides are entirely of glass; the width at each end is about seventeen feet, but in the centre it expands to a height of fifty feet, and into the form of an octagon, with an area of the same dimensions. In the middle are three large cut glass chandeliers, with coloured burners: graceful wreaths of the passiflora, and rich clusters of the wistaria, are pendant from the roof, while the body is filled with the choicest exotics in fruit and flowers. In this Conservatory are a number of beautiful statues-the Seasons, Muses, fine copies, by Trentanova, of the celebrated Minerva Medicæ, Flora, Ceres, &c.; the pure colour of the marbles is finely relieved by the bright green of the plants, among which these statues are most judiciously placed. A number of gilded cages are hung around, in which are beautiful birds, who, while they give animation to the scene by their graceful movements, contribute by their brilliant plumage and melodious song to impart an air of oriental luxury to this delicious spot.

By large folding-doors, which have, like most of the others leading to the principal apartments of the mansion, large sheets of plate glass between the tracery, we entered

The Long Gallery and Drawing-Room.—These are magnificent apartments, and splendidly furnished. Here we observed that we were nearly in the centre of a cross. Opposite to us, and connected with the Drawing-room in which we stood by a lofty archway, was the Long Gallery, filled with the richest furniture—on our right, a series of corridors leading to the Chapel, the glowing east window of which terminated the vista—to the left were an unrivalled suite of state apartments, and behind us lay the Conservatory, the fragrant odour from which threw a delightful perfume over the magnificent ensemble.

The walls of the Long Gallery and Drawing-room are coloured a deep crimson, studded with large quatrefoils, in the centre of each of which is the family arms—a golden lion rampant. The quatrefoils are united by a golden band, running diagonally, and bearing the motto prest d'accomplir.

The ceilings are vaulted, and highly enriched with tracery, having the ribs of the arches supported by clustered columns at the side, and the sombre colour of the oak relieved by gilded bosses at the different intersections.* Paintings of the highest class adorn the walls; among them are a splendid portrait of Charles I., by Vandyck; an Earl of Arundel, with his son, and another of the Duke of Buckingham, by the same artist, and of the Duke and Duchess of Shrewsbury; a fine picture, by Jordaens, of Mercury slaving Argus; Rebecca giving water to Eliazar at the well, by B. Graat; two magnificent landscapes, by Wynantz, of large size; others by Orizonti, and an infinite number of cabinet paintings, by Holbein, Paul Potter, Schalken, Ostade, and Teniers: "lastly, and the most interesting of all, the portraits-in the same picture-by Flor, of the noble Earl and Countess's two beautiful daughters, the ladies Mary and Gwndaline Katharine Talbot; now-by their marriage with the heads of two of the most illustrious families of Italythe princesses Doria Pamphilj and Borghese: the first has the light hair and fair complexion of her native land, the other the glowing cheek and sparkling eye of the country of her adoption."+

The furniture here is of the richest description, and in

+ We here give the comment of a friend who had the best opportunities of judging between the beautiful originals and the picture.

^{*} The Earls of Shrewsbury of former times, as well as those of modern days, appear to have been remarkable for the great splendour of their residences. In Lodge's Illustrations of British History, we find a letter from Richard Topelyffe to the Earl of Shrewsbury, in which he says:—
"This afternowne I cawled upon Mr. Clarencieuxe, and had sight of that woorke he hath sett owt for the roofe of yor chambr besyds yor gallerye: weh as it shall excede in rayrenes of devyce and beawty, so it is thought no too of eny estayt in Englonde can be able, in honor, to reatche to performe the lyke." Lodge, in a note, says, this "worke" was "probably a ceiling in compartments of fret-work, according to the manner of that time, ornamented at the joints with the various quarterings of arms to which the Earl and Countess were entitled." This nobleman's son, Gilbert Lord Talbot, in the letter to his father of the same date, writes:—"I received your L.' letter on Wednesday last, by the fynysher, and, accordynge to your pleasure, have taken order that he shall have goode glasse to worke and a room in Shrewsburye House to lye in, and to worke it; and after that he hath fynyshed the glasse he may take in hand the mendynge of such roomes in that your L.' house by rough castynge them and seelynge them, as there shall be neede of, and then the season wyl be better for that purpose than it is now. As for the armes in glasse we'n your L. wrytethe that Clarentieux the harolde diespeake, I here it wyl be the fayrest glasse worke (that is syghtely) any where in Englonde to be founde.

lavish profusion; magnificent mirrors; vases and jars of the costliest fabric of Dresden and other china,* placed on gilded brackets; rich Turkey carpets; Persian ottomans and sofas; costly cabinets of every form and country; clocks of buhl, and tables of varied marbles covered with an infinity of bijouterie and articles of vertu, enrich and adorn these beautiful rooms—in short, whatever taste can desire, or unbounded wealth procure, and all contributing to throw an air of comfort over the apartments, which is not often found in the palaces of the great. A softened light is thrown over this congregated splendour from lofty pointed windows. In one of the windows of the Long Gallery is a fine full-length portrait, in stained glass, by Muss, of Edward the Black Prince, in complete armour, and wearing his mantle as Knight of the Garter.

By a doorway immediately opposite this portrait we passed into a corridor with an arched roof, filled with glass of various tints, and hung with elegant gothic lanterns. Turning to

our left, we entered

The Family Dining Room, which is about twenty-five feet square, and furnished with every requisite indicative of a princely hospitality. The ceiling is ribbed; the chimney-piece and massive sideboard of carved oak, in the Elizabethan style. In arched recesses are a great number of carved brackets, on which are placed rare specimens of Raffaelle, and other antique china: in the centre of the room is suspended a splendid chandelier, of antique form and elaborate workmanship. The walls are covered with a rich flocked paper, with figures in gold, designed in the style of old embossed leather, and hung with paintings by Cuyp, Biltius, and Hondekoeter.

Returning into the corridor, we proceeded to

The Principal Dining-Room, which has been completely altered. Instead of descending into it by a spiral staircase, it now occupies the second story on a line with the other splendid rooms in Alton. This part of the building has been raised ten feet, and what was the original narrow galleries on each side, from which we have looked down on the splendid banquet beneath, are removed, and now forms the floor of the dining-room. A magnificent heraldic window now lights the apartment, and it is fitted up in the style of

^{*} The collection of rare china at Alton Towers is one of the most valuable in England,

our old baronial halls, with heraldic devices. Nearly the entire of one side is covered by an immense picture of a riot which took place in Rome at the coronation of the Emperor Frederick Barbarossa; who is represented on horseback, wearing his imperial crown and mantle, and in the act of receiving a sword from a page. Immediately in front of the emperor stands Henry the Lion, a celebrated ancestor of our present royal family; his horse is lying wounded on the ground, and he himself in complete armour, with his sword drawn, appears ready to receive the attack of the insurgent leader, who is rushing violently towards him. To the right of the emperor is the pope Adrian IV., Nicholas Breakspeare, the only Englishman who ever attained the tiara, followed by a long line of cardinals and dignitaries of the church, while the more peaceful citizens appear hurrying to their homes, as if unwilling to partake of the danger or glory of an emeute. In the back ground is the old church of St. Peter, and in the distance the castle of St. Angelo, and other monuments of antiquity. This fine painting is by the brothers Ripenhausen, and is the largest ever framed in England. On the opposite side of the room is a noble picture, by Davis, of Pius VII. bestowing his benediction on the Earl and Countess, and their daughters. The venerable pontiff occupies the centre; his right arm slightly uplifted represents him in the act of giving his blessing, and the benign expression of his countenance shows that it is not one of mere ceremony, but flowing from his heart: kneeling before him is the Countess, with her youngest daughter, then a little girl, who is looking up at the holy father with a sweet expression of countenance: behind the Countess are the Earl and their eldest daughter, Lady Mary Talbot: near the Pope are cardinal Gonsalvi in his scarlet robes, and the celebrated sculptor Canova, in a court dress: a number of other personages are standing around, and the glorious dome of St. Peter's is seen towering over the eternal city in the distance. To the left of this fine production is a portrait of Charles II. in his robes, and on the right, one of the Duke of Ormond.

Through an arched doorway which communicates with one of the galleries, we entered an octangular vestibule, in which stands a marble vase of great height; a number of cabinet paintings decorate the walls, and ornamented doors lead to various family living rooms. Turning to the left we

entered

The Boudder, or private Drawing-Room of the Countess, a delightful apartment, having its walls covered with cabinet paintings, miniatures in rich frames, and water colour drawings of the family: around are cabinets of ivory inlaid with silver, small china ornaments of every form and country, delicate bijouterie, and rich furniture, all arranged with consummate taste, and with that peculiar air of graceful negligence, aptly termed beaux desordre, the exquisite elegance of which, feminine taste alone knows how perfectly to display. From the ceiling is suspended an exquisite chandelier of old Dresden china, valued at a thousand guineas. The windows occupy the whole height of the apartment; the lower half of each is filled by one magnificent sheet of plate glass: from these a splendid view is obtained of the unrivalled gardens and the surrounding scenery.

Near the Boudoir is a circular staircase, which communicates with the "Doria" apartments, a magnificent suite recently erected for the occupation of the Prince and Princess Doria, during their visits to Alton. The furniture and decorations are of the most sumptuous description: the hangings of figured velvet, and the whole of the fittings-up in the gorgeous style of Louis XIV. Beneath this suite is a lobby, communicating by a flight of steps with a terrace walk which runs along the embattled walls, enclosing a delightful garden, laid out in the Italian style, with a marble fountain in the centre. On the angles of the walls are lofty turrets, in which are figures of warders armed cap-a-pie. From a high mound in an outer enclosure a bird's eye view of the immense building presents itself, with

"The battled towers the donjon keep, The loop-holed grates where ladies peep, And flanking walls that round it sweep."

Returning to the house, we proceeded by a passage leading from the Boudoir to a corridor; then turning to the left we entered

THE CHAPEL, which corresponds in majesty with the mansion to which it is attached. A flood of golden light flows from the windows, the grateful odour of incense floats around, and the pictured walls exhibit some of the most interesting events in the lives of our blessed Redeemer and his saints.

This beautiful Chapel, like most other parts of the Towers, is of the Tudor period of architecture, above ninety feet in

length, and sixty in height. The roof is of oak, gabled and supported by bold ornamented arches, which rest on the kneeling figures of angels placed on wreathed corbels. The east end is occupied by the Sanctuary, in the lofty apsis of which stands the altar, formed after the design of a tomb of the fifteenth century. On the altar is an elevation of about a foot in height, the front of which is filled with miniature copies from celebrated pictures, pourtraying the most important circumstances connected with our Saviour's divine mission. The centre one is the "Last Supper," after Leonardi da Vinci. On this elevation stands a beautiful shrine, inlaid with ancient ivory carvings, and six lofty candlesticks for the lights used at High Mass. Immediately behind these is the Altar-piece, of most splendid design: it is divided into five compartments; the centre, projecting beyond the others, has a niche, painted in azure blue and studded with small gold crosses, containing a magnificent crucifix, sparkling with precious stones and surrounded by figures of saints and angels. The other divisions are filled with paintings: that next the crucifix, on the left, represents the Earl of Shrewsbury at his devotions in complete armour, with an emblazoned surcoat, and attended by his patron-saint, John the Baptist. On the right is the Countess, also at her devotions, with the Blessed Virgin standing at her side. The outer compartments have the figures of St. Augustin and St. Thomas, arrayed in their episcopal vestments. The upper part of the screen is filled with projecting tracery, elaborately carved, richly gilt, and tinted vermilion and azure: at the sides are magnificent brocade curtains, reaching to the floor. Immediately above and behind the Altar is the splendid oriel window,* the four centre divisions of which contain the Evangelists, in flowing drapery, standing, with the book of the Gospels in their hands, under rich canopies, beautifully executed after the manner of the early German masters. The other compartments are filled with the usual symbols of the Evangelists-the angel, lion, &c., with the instruments of the Passion, and elegant tracery. A light screen-work of carved oak, with gilded finials and ornaments, runs around the sides and back of the sanctuary, having the divisions filled with diapering of most elaborate design, in colours corresponding with the altar-piece, and surmounted by a

This fine window, and most of the other stained glass in the mansion, are by that eminent artist T. Willement, Esq., F. S. A.

cornice in fret-work, which, like the rest, is highly gilt and coloured. Above this, and completely covering the whole of the east end, rises another most magnificent screen of open tabernacle work, the pinnacles of which, with all their details of crockets, finials, &c., stretch on either side of and over the apsis up to the very roof. In the smaller niches with which this truly gorgeous screen* abounds, are placed statues of angels clothed in white, and having in their hands scrolls with sentences from the Te Deum, &c.; while in the four larger ones, two on either side, under splendid canopies, stand the effigies of Edward the Confessor, St. Chad, Thomas of Canterbury, and St. George; the latter is represented in armour of gold, and the others in the robes or vestments belonging to their various dignities. Over the centre of the sanctuary hangs a lamp, and the floor is covered with a sumptuous carpet, on which is placed a seat of ancient form, clothed with crimson velvet, for the officiating priest, and others of different design for the assistants. Immense candlesticks, containing tapers of corresponding size, and smaller ones for the acolytes, are placed around; while near the railing, which separates the sanctuary from the body of the sacred edifice, stand two beautiful figures of angels the size of life, bending as if in adoration towards the Altar.

The pictures which adorn the walls are chiefly copies of the most celebrated works of the great masters, and of the same size as the originals, viz.: The Transfiguration, by Raffaelle, copied by Durantini; the Communion of St. Jerome, by Dominichino, copied by Durantini; the Assumption of the Virgin, by Titian, copied by Flor; Christ restoring the Blind, by Caracci; St. John and St. Bartholomew, in the style of Vandyck; with originals of Lawrence O'Toole, Archbishop of Dublin, and the Assassination of

Thomas à Becket, by Ripenhausen.

Four stone arches separate the entrance from the body of the chapel, and support a tribune, or gallery, for the family, in which are a faldstool, antique chairs, and an ornamented niche containing the holy water stoup. Over the tribune is the gallery for the choir, with an organ of great size and power. The floor of the chapel is filled with seats for the congregation, of the form of those in our old churches, and the walls are lined throughout with oak, the dark colour

^{*} The screen and other decorations of this magnificent sanctuary are from the design of A. W. Pugin, Esq.

of which subdues in some measure the brilliancy of the decorations, and gives an air of solemnity to the whole of the sacred edifice.

On leaving the Chapel we passed through a series of beautiful corridors. The first, from its contiguity, is with great propriety filled with relics, pictures, and interesting objects connected with religion. Among the pictures is a fine dead Christ, by Guido. On marble tables are some splendid jewelled and inlaid crucifixes of great value, and in a glass case are a variety of crosses, seals, and deeds, once belonging to the convent of Sion House, at Isleworth, and a beautiful chased silver bell, given to that community by Queen Mary; the State Key of Croxden Abbey,* rosaries of Pius V. and Mary Queen of Scots, and one of Heliotrope, presented to the Earl by Leo XII. Near these stands a small but exquisite statue of Clement VIII. in his pontifical robes, seated on a throne, with a tiara on his head, and stretching out his arm in the act of giving his blessing; the graceful, yet natural and dignified position, is perfect, and the delicate execution of the embroidery and lace astonishing.

The next corridor, which is in direct line with the preceding, but larger, contains a range of glass cases filled with minerals, fossils, antiques, and specimens of marbles from ancient Roman temples, palaces, &c. One case contains some splendid enamels, by Bone; one of Sir Thomas More, in a collar of SS, after Holbein; another of the Water Doctor, after G. Dow, and a Holy family, after Raffaelle, with a multiplicity of miniatures, mosaics, and medals of eminent personages; there is also a collection of rare shells, and on the walls are some fine paintings-the Vision of St. Gregory, by Caracci; a splendid copy of Monks at Vespers, by Granet, and a portrait of the late Cardinal Weld; with a series of about two hundred miniature portraits of celebrated painters. In fact, these corridors are filled with objects of the highest interest to the antiquary, naturalist, and lover of art, affording a never-failing resource, as well as a delightful lounge, for the family and visitors.

^{*} Croxden Abbey is now a ruin about three miles from Alton Towers: it was founded by Bertram de Verdun, in 1176, and belonged to the order of Cistercians. Some magnificent doorways and lofty windows of that period still remain, and in the cemetery are several stone coffins. The State Key was presented in a formal manner to the Abbot on his being elected to that dignity; it is made of steel, and is of elaborate design and beautiful workmanship.

Adjoining this corridor is the wax-work room, so called from containing a number of groups in wax, representing gipsy scenes, donkey races, and club-rooms, by Percy, most exquisitely modelled in the style of Dutch paintings.

A glass door communicates with the Drawing-Room, which we had first entered from the Conservatory; and on returning through it in another direction, we had an opportunity of noticing the splendid effect produced by placing immense mirrors vis-a-vis, and causing the magnificent objects which intervene to be reflected ad infinitum. We now came to a small library, which forms a pendant to the waxwork room; cases with books are placed around, and over the chimney-piece is a fine picture of Ruins in Rome. Passing through another archway with folding-doors, we entered

THE STATE ROOMS, which have only recently been finished. The first is

THE STATE DRAWING-ROOM,

"That seemed however but to open on A range or suite of further chambers, which Might lead to "the Lord" knows where, but in this one The moveables were prodigally rich: Sofas 'twas half a sin to sit upon, So costly were they; carpets every stitch Of rarest workmanship."

For this apartment to be more sumptuous than those we had hitherto passed would scarcely be possible; but the decorations being newer, and the furniture having a greater profusion of gilding, the effect is more brilliant and sparkling. The walls are hung with a rich paper, and the ceiling painted a pale blue, with bold projecting mouldings, flowing lengthways in a wavy manner, and forming a number of oval compartments, relieved by an ornament in the centre, which, as well as the mouldings, is highly guilt. A deep cornice with a gold border surrounds the room, enriched with the Tudor rose and trefoils variously tinted. At the farther end, near the ceiling, is a shield emblazoned with a great number of quarterings, surmounted by an ancient earl's coronet supported by angels. Nearly the whole of the south side is occupied by three windows: the centre one is in a magnificent oriel, and contains some fine stained glass, representing David, St. Cecilia, and angels playing on musical instruments. Portraits of the present Earl and Countess in their coronation robes, by Flor, ornament the north side; and on the east is a large picture, by Ripenhausen, representing an event in the life of St. Elizabeth of Hungary. A number of mirrors in splendid frames are placed around, with a profusion of gorgeous furniture—sofas elaborately carved and gilt, Persian ottomans, screens and fauteuils of needlework, inlaid tables, splendid chandeliers, and downy carpets. The lofty windows and arches are hung with rich crimson Irish poplin, studded with the arms of the Earl and Countess, woven in gold.

Two archways, occupying nearly the whole of one side of

the apartment, lead to

THE NORTH LIBRARY, the decorations and furniture of which are of a more sober and massive character than those of the Drawing-room. In the centre is a large table of dark carved oak, covered with portfolios containing engravings and works of art. Around the walls are oak cases, filled with books, from the ponderous folio to the unpretending duodecimo-the dark solemn-looking tome of the ancient fathers, and the glittering morocco-bound sketch-book of the modern tourist. At the north-west angle of the mansion is a large tower, one beautiful apartment of which opens into the Library, and is called Poet's Corner, opposite the entrance to which is a fine oriel window, with immense sheets of plate glass; from this window a beautiful view is obtained of the surrounding scenery. The ceiling is exceedingly rich, and divided into squares, having deep octagonal pendants, tinted, and terminating with a gold ornament. The walls are hung with a beautiful paper, designed in the style of the illuminated borders of ancient MSS., and the windows with curtains of deep sea-green Indian silk: carved chairs of the sixteenth century, with cut velvet seats and backs, inlaid tables covered with ornaments, and a number of valuable cabii et paintings, by Holbein, Mieris, and others, decorate this bear ti'ul recess. Returning by the north, we entered

THE WEST LIBBARY, which corresponds in its decorations and furniture with the other, of which it is a continuation. The ceilings are finely painted, and divided into squares by bold ribs, having bosses enriched with small shields of arms at the points of intersection. Over the arched recesses in which the books stand, are various sentences from the Proverbs of Solomon, showing the advantages of knowledge. In this Library and Poet's Corner are two splendidly carved mirror frames, and an interesting collection of autographs.

Adjoining the Library is THE SMALL STATE DRESSING-Room, filled with appropriate furniture and ornaments, and leading to

THE STATE BED-ROOM, which is of noble dimensions, and the most splendid of all the apartments we had hitherto seen, for the richness of its ornaments, and the luxuriousness of the furniture.

The ceiling is divided by deep ribs into squares, having the ground painted a pale blue; rich tracery of oak and gold stretches towards the centre of each compartment, and terminates with a gold leaf; the hollow mouldings of the ribs are crimson, studded with gold; below is a deep cornice of vine leaves and fruit picked out, green and gold; and the walls are hung with a paper of an azure ground, relieved

with crimson and gold.

The principal object in the apartment is the State Bed; which is of very large size, richly carved, and decorated with a profusion of gilding, and surmounted by a canopy, from which hang magnificent curtains of pale yellow Indian silk. The dressing-table and stool are covered with silk of the same colour, over which are thrown other covers of net, with bouquets of flowers beautifully embroidered in silk and trimmed with the finest lace. On the table is a costly gold toilet service, and an antique looking-glass, with a lace bor-Splendid gilt sofas and fauteuils, lofty tripods, supporting branches for lights, Indian tables, cabinets filled with ancient china, costly mirrors, with a profusion of beautiful ornaments, and a fine portrait of the Dowager Queen, Adelaide, by Flor, furnish forth this regal sleeping room. Connected with the bed-room is

THE STATE BOUDGIR, a delightful little apartment, of an octagonal form, and sumptuously furnished; we particularly noticed some gilded chairs and sofas, covered with deep purple silk, and splendidly embroidered with flowers in large bouquets. A fine or-molu cabinet contains a tea-service of the most costly Sevre china, having miniature portraits of Louis XIV., Mesdames de Maintenon, Sevigné, and other celebrated French personages, most delicately painted. But the most interesting of its contents are portraits of the present Earl's two daughters—the Princesses Doria and Borghese (in fancy dresses) and of two lovely little girls, their children. There is also an exquisite copy of Raffaelle's celebrated picture of the Virgin and Child, in the possession of the Grand Duke of Tuscany, and, from the great value he

sets on it, called "La Madonna della Gran Duca."

Turning to the left of the Boudoir, through the waitingroom, in which is a large oak cabinet, finely carved in high relief, we passed into a long passage lined with black bog oak, and communicating with the new picture gallery, over the arched door of which is the arms of the Great Talbot, "John, fprst Erle of Shrewsbury," painted in the old style, and surrounded by the garter, with smaller escutcheons, on the dexter side bearing his own arms impaled with those of his first wife, Maud, daughter of Thomas Nevil, and Margaret, daughter and heiress of Lord Fournyval, surmounted by the arms of Nevil and Fournyval; and on the sinister side impaled with those of his second wife, Margaret, daughter of Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, and Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Lord Berkeley, surmounted with the arms of Beauchamp and Berkeley. Over another arch are the arms of Henry VI., in whose reign the great Earl lived, with lions for supporters, holding in their paws banners emblazoned with fleurs-de-lis and a harp.

Above the State Rooms* are a suite of sleeping apartments, of which we had only an opportunity of noticing

THE ARRAGON ROOM, so called from containing a portrait of Queen Catherine, and from some of the ornaments having belonged to her. It is fitted up in the Old English style; the bedstead, which is hung with crimson damask, cabinets, tables, &c., are of dark carved oak: over the dressing-table is a magnificent cover, brought from Genoa, of ancient lace worked on blue satin. The walls are hung with a beautiful paper, figured in purple and gold. Two dressing-rooms communicate with this bed-room: the ladies' contains six splendid ivory arm chairs, inlaid with ebony, which were brought from India, and presented to Queen Charlotte by Warren Hastings. At a sale of her private property, after her decease, they were purchased by the Earl of Shrewsbury.

Descending again to the principal corridor of the State Rooms we turned to the right, and proceeded by a smaller one, the walls of which are covered by exquisite cabinet

paintings, to

THE TALBOT GALLERY; our attempt to give an idea of which, with its gorgeous decorations and furniture, by de-

^{*} We have been rather minute in our description of the State Apartments, as they are not shown to the general visitor.

scription, will be, we fear, a failure. If the reader of these pages be, like ourselves, in the habit of making pilgrimages to the more celebrated palaces of our nobility, he must call to his recollection the most splendid hall, saloon, or gallery, he has hitherto seen; he must charge his memory for the most brilliant spectacle of heraldic emblazonment and architectural decoration, glowing pictures and breathing marble, which immense wealth has procured, and combined in one magnificent apartment, and his ideas will, we think, still fall short of the regal splendour of this, the last and noblest of the halls in Alton Towers.

In size, form, and general design, the Talbot Gallery closely resembles the Picture Gallery, which we have already described, but with these the similarity ends. The walls are covered, up to the corbels which support the arches, with a splendid paper, of unique design, while above, between the arches, are a hundred shields of arms, beginning at the Conquest, and showing the descent of the present Earl of Shrewsbury, from William the Conqueror, David I., of Scotland, and Louis VI., of France; the arms of these sovereigns, as well as the whole of the pedigree, are emblazoned in their proper colours. On the opposite side to these, is a range of shields, showing the alliances formed by the ladies of the family, from an early period down to the present time. Two splendid stone chimney-pieces, most elaborate in their design and embellishments, ornament the fire-places; the centre of each is composed of a lofty ogee arch, with brackets, finials, &c., having on either side elaborately carved canopies, under which are Talbot dogs, supporting enamelled banners of arms, while above stand the figures of two knights, armed cap-a-piè. From the roof of the gallery hang eight chandeliers, or, as they are more generally called, coronæ, the design being that of the crown which hangs over the tomb of Charlemagne, at Aix-la-Chapelle. The polished oak floor is covered at intervals by rich carpets, on which are placed velvet-covered chairs, sofas, and ottomans, Florentine and inlaid cabinet tables, of mosaic, marble, and choice woods, of almost every variety that taste has designed, or art executed; immense jars and vases, of the rarest and most costly china, with innumerable smaller specimens of native or foreign art, of the most recherche character. The sumptuousness of the whole is relieved, while the effect is heightened, by the happy admixture of some fine statuary, consisting of columns of porphyry and cippolina; Egyptian urns canopi, busts, and statues; but as we have not space to make separate mention of each, we shall merely point out to the visitor the beautiful "Dancing girl," by Canova, with busts of Pius VII. and Cardinal Gonsalvi, by the same great master; exquisite small statues of Esculapius and Flora, busts of the Earl and Countess, by Campbell; and of their daughter, the lovely and lamented Princess Borghese, by Tenerani; another by the same artist, of the Duke de Bordeaux; there are also some fine copies from the antique, of the Towneley Isis, Juno, Paris, Helen, &c., &c. The largest and most elaborate work of the sculptor, however, is a fullsized statue, by Caccarini-a pupil of Canova-of Raffaelle, in a sitting posture, holding in his hand a tablet, on which is an outline of his celebrated chef d'œuvre—the Transfiguration. This fine figure is placed in the large recess formed by the tower which terminates the line of galleries, and being elevated on a pedestal, has the appearance of presiding over the noble productions of art which they contain.

Magnificent and interesting as is the assemblage of gorgeous furniture and exquisite sculpture, it yields in value and interest to the splendid collection of paintings which surrounds it. Upwards of a hundred and fifty of the choicest pictures, all of them of the highest class, and many of them chefs d'œuvres, cover the walls, and throw, as it were, a halo of art around this princely gallery. At the termination of the gallery are two fine lancet windows, filled with stained glass, and containing the arms of the present Earl and nine of his ancestors, who have been Knights of the Garter, the badge of which noble order encircles each of their shields.

On arriving at the end of the gallery we turned to look in another direction on the splendid scene which presents itself; our view extended through the whole line of galleries, which form a vista of five hundred feet, relieved, but not intercepted, by elaborate open screens, which serve as agreeable resting points, where the eye can pause, as it were, to consider more attentively the beautiful objects in its more immediate vicinity. And when the reader recollects that the whole of this vista is filled with works of art of the noblest character, or with remains of antiquity of the most interesting kind, he may have some idea of the magnificent coup d'ail which presents itself, and of the difficulty we find in giving any thing like an adequate description of it.

We had now gone through the whole of the apartments which are shown, and were pleased to find that we should have to make our exit at the same door by which we had entered, and should necessarily have to repass the line of galleries. We therefore proceeded on our return: slowly winding our way through the Talbot gallery, crossing from side to side at almost every step to take a parting glance at some favourite object which had before attracted our regard, or to get a view of some little gem of art that caught our eye, and which, amid the multitude, had hitherto escaped our notice, we arrived at the Octagon,

"Where columns carved, with fretted arch arise, And sculptured grace, with glowing colour vies."

We paused for a moment to admire the beauty and elegance of its proportions, and then returning through the Armoury,

> "Where many a scutcheon and banner riven, Wave in the breeze that comes from Heaven,"

arrived at the tower by which we first entered. Anxious to take a final glance at departing, we turned to cast "a longing lingering look behind:" parties of the noblest of the land were passing and repassing in the galleries; some of the highest and brightest of our countrywomen, whose lovely features and perfect forms rivalled those of the beauties on which they gazed, were moving in the distance, and by giving animation to the scene, rendered it perfect.

While visiting Alton we took a drive to Cheadle, to see the remarkable Church, built from designs by Pugin, which, as a church, decidedly surpasses every thing of the kind ever yet reared, for the beauty, variety, and splendour of the decorations and arrangements, &c. We cannot enter into detail, our limits forbid, but we should say no one who can, ought to omit the pleasure of viewing it, which is freely granted on request. We were requested to see it from high authority, and our old friend Orrell drove us over.

Before finally quitting Alton, we cannot but express our best acknowledgments to Mrs. Winter and Mr. Joyce, for their kind and polite attention, and the readiness with which they communicated the information required, in order to enable us to give this account of Alton. We beg also to express our thanks to the head gardener, for his urbanity and kindness on our passing through the lovely Gardens. To prevent disappointment, we must observe, the House is

only shown on Tuesdays and Thursdays; but the lovely Gardens and grounds every day, Saturday and Sunday excepted. On our

RETURN HOME we took the Earl's drive, which is exceedingly beautiful; when we arrived opposite the upper pool, just above the Gardens, and near to Thomson's rock, we were almost blinded by the splendour of the scene. The sun was in the "far west," and shed a flood of glory on the whole picture, which comprehended a view of the Towers, Conservatories, and part of the Gardens, as seen across the beautiful lake, enlivened with swans, &c.

We here give the remarks of Mr. Rhodes on this splendid approach to Alton:—

"Alton Abbey, for effect, should always be approached by the Earl of Shrewsbury's private carriage road. Pass through Ellastone, and pursue the Uttoxeter road one mile farther, where a turn to the right leads to the park gates, the entrance into this privileged drive. Here the beautiful scenery of this noble demesne commences. On passing along, several openings occur amongst the trees on the left, that let in some delightful views of the scenery about Alton. Within about half a mile of the house, on the right, is a Conservatory, ornamented with statues, busts and vases; and on the left, a lake of water. Visitors should here stop their carriage, and, for a short time, enjoy the scenery before them. little farther on, there is a Gothic temple, close to the road-At this point, Alton Towers and the intervening Gardens burst upon the eye in all their beauty and magnificence. It is a peep into a terrestrial paradise. Proceeding onwards another quarter of a mile, through a plantation of pines, this noble mansion stands before you in all the fulness of its splendour. The lake, the lawn, the arcade bridge, the embattled terrace, the towers, and the surrounding foliage, come broadly and instantaneously upon the view-a splendid and imposing picture-a place to be gazed on and wondered at."

We rapidly descended into the valley of the Churnet, all the way skirting the long walk from the gardens made along the rude cliff. A short distance, on arriving at the Valley, brought us to the Lodge gates, where we struck into the Uttoxeter road. Here we took to the left, up through the toll-gate to Ellastone, and were soon afterwards at Ashbourne. From this last place we returned home, through the Grove and Ashbourne Green, and by Kniveton and Hopton, then Middleton; another mile brought us into the Wirksworth road, by Steeple-house, and so down Cromford hill, home. Some prefer this road to that by the Via Gellia, but we do not—it is not half so interesting.

We have to record this as one of the most interesting tours

we have ever taken.

CHAPTER VII.

EXCURSION TO THE ROUTER ROCKS, AND ROBIN HOOD'S STRIDE, BY DARLEY DALE, HADDON, AND ARBOR-LOW, DRUIDICAL CIRCLE ON DITTO.—REMARKS ON THE STRUCTURE OF GRITSTONE ROCKS, ROCK BASINS, DRUIDICAL REMAINS, CAVE AND CRUCIFIX, ROCKING STONES.—RETURN BY WINSTER, GRANGE MILL, AND CROMFORD.

This is probably one of the most delightful drives in Derbyshire, including within its ample range objects of the greatest interest, sublimity, and beauty; presented in rich succession throughout the entire route without repetition; but having given the tract as far as Haddon in our excursion to Chatsworth, to which we would beg to refer the reader, we will pass it over here with a remark or two. On passing up the Dell, beyond Matlock, the eminence called "Oker," appeared more than usually beautiful and striking, with the two trees on the summit, from this point forming but one object, as already noticed both by roadway and rail.* There is a still nearer way by Darley Bridge, turning off at the toll-bar, then taking up through Wensley and Winster (which is hilly), on passing through which the road to the right leads at once to the Rocks, not more than a mile distant from Winster.

About a hundred yards beyond the bridge near to Haddon, we took the left-hand road; proceeding in this direction about half a mile, we again took to the left. The one in the direct line leads to Alport, Youlgreave, and Middleton. Here we crossed the Lathkeil, and proceeded along a narrow dale,

See page 93.

skirting Stanton Manor, profusely wooded and watered by a small streamlet called Hartle-Brook. We passed the lodge gates of W. B. Thornhill, Esq., whose mansion and pleasure grounds are on the sloping side of the moor above.

We shall now direct the reader's attention a few moments to Alport and Arbor-Low. At Alport, only a mile from hence, the greater part of the Tufa is now obtained, which is sent to all parts of the kingdom, to form rock-work, &c., (see page 32, and the note page 33). Here commences the south end of the beautiful Lathkiel Dale, a lovely fishing stream of great interest, which originates high up the valley in a series of springs issuing out of the side of a steep hill, near to Moneyash, just above Scales Dale, and full of interest;

and above Middleton is

ARBOR-LOW, an elevated moor, on the top of which there is a Druidical Circle, surrounded by a ditch, and a bank or vallum; near this is a barrow, and within two hundred yards of it, to the south, the celebrated Barvtes is The Circle is one of the most extraordinary monuments of antiquity in Derbyshire, and probably was one of the provincial places of meeting of the ancient Bards, who held their "Gorseddau," or Meetings, in the open air, and (to use one of their mottoes) in the face of the sun, and in the eve of the light. All their places of assemblage were, like this, set apart by forming a circle of stones around the Maen Gorsedd (the Centre Stone, called the stone of assembly); and at their Meetings, the Bardic traditions were recited, and their principal topics discussed. Bards always stood bare-headed and bare-footed, in their unicoloured robe, at the Gorsedd, and within the Cylch Cyngrar, or Circle of Federation. The ceremony used on the opening of a meeting, was the sheathing of a sword, on the Maen Gorsedd, at which all the Bards assisted; and this was accompanied by a brief discourse, of which the following is a specimen :- "The truth against the world: Under the protection of the Bards of the isle of Britain, are all who repair to this place, where there is not a naked weapon against them; and all who seek the privilege appertaining to Science and Bardism, let them demand it from Iolo Moganwg, W. Mechain, Hywel Ervri, and D. Dhu Ervri, and they all being graduated Bards, according to the privilege of the Bards of the isle of Britain. The truth against

the World."* The business of their meetings was closed by taking up, but not unsheathing, the sword, accompanied with a few words, when all covered their heads and feet.— A person called the Dadgeiniad, or Reciter, always attended, whose business was to recite the traditions and poems, make proclamations, announce candidates, and open and close the Gorsedd.

This point, which is illustrated in our Intaglio Map, is not so elevated as some eminences in the neighbour-hood; yet the prospect is commanding, especially to the eastward, and well suited for the purposes intended—to impress the mind with the vastness of creation and the power of an unseen Deity; and who does not feel a sensation approaching to veneration, when he treads the ground rendered so deeply interesting, by its having been the theatre, in ancient times, on which the Briton first displayed those powers of eloquence and that love of country, which has distinguished his posterity in much later days? But to return to our drive.

After crossing the Lathkeil, a short two miles brought us to the narrowest point, where a road takes up to the left to Router and Birchover, by a few cottages on the left, and a mill in the ravine on the right of them—this is Eagle stone, which is about equi-distant from Router Rocks on the one side, and Robin Hood's Stride or Graned Tor on the other. The former being a striking group of rocks at the extreme west end of Stanton Moor, and the latter on Hartle Moor, both being elevated ridges of the Millstone Grit, only divided by the narrow brake or ravine, and forming together one vast angular mass, terminating in a point westward, enclosed on all sides but one by the Limestone measures. These ridges are bold, and broken up into detached masses of jagged rocks, presenting the most remarkable appearances, named Router, Bradley, Cratcliff, Graned, and Durwood Tors. All these rocks are supposed to have been the resort of the Druids, by whom it is said they were much modified; some conceiving it possible that the immense piles of stones on Robin Hood's Stride were reared by them.

GENERAL REMARKS .- NATURE OF THE GRITSTONE, ETC.

That the Druids chose such elevated and remarkable posi-

^{*} Davies's History of Derbyshire, note page 585.

tions just alluded to, as the most impressive and suitable to perform their religious rites is most probable, being in perfect accordance with the general practice of the heathen world, and in unison with the feelings and habits of a rude and dark age; * but that they piled up these tremendous masses of stone, or formed the rocking ones, is most absurd, as their positions and structure can easily be accounted for on natural principles .- All the rock basins, as they are called, as well as the rocking-stones, being merely the effect of the elements for so many ages, which rage with immense fury on such elevated and exposed points-the gritstone being particularly soft and inadhesive in part, and that very unequally-the softer are easily fretted away by the action of every tempest; hence the rounded, rent, and desiccated appearance of the rocks; and hence also the existence of the numerous oval and circular basins, which occupy the summits (frequently filled with water). From the same cause, the dome-like cavities arise (forming caves, &c.), by the line of separation being curvilinear. These are facts that may be easily proved by any one acquainted with geology, on an attentive examination of the grit, which is purely a mechanical deposit. The effects of the weather in destroying the softer and more prominent points of these measures, are strikingly represented in the rounded and rent masses forming the loftiest peaks of "Graned Tor," and by the serrated or furrowed character of the other, and also many of the extreme edges of Cratcliff Rocks are so singularly weather-worn, that they are more comparable to the frets or ornamental work on Gothic buildings, than to any thing else.

Having made these remarks, we must proceed to the Rocks. At Eagle-stone we left the carriage, and crossed the road and the stream, following a narrow tract pointed out to us up the Moor, amongst abundance of ferns, with a sprinkling of ash and birch. Our first point was Graned Tor, the farthest and the boldest group of rocks (called also Mock-Beggar's Hall, from the two lofty rocks† at each end appear-

+ These are about eighteen feet high, and twenty yards apart, and called Robin Hood's Stride.

^{*} See Num. xxii. 41, also xxiii. 3, 9, 14. 28. The great number of Barrows and Druidical Circles occurring on Stanton Moor and in the neighbourhood, called the "Nine Ladies," "The Nine-stone Close," &c., serve considerably to strengthen the idea of these being frequented by an ancient priesthood.

ing like chimneys), which we reached in a quarter of an hour-and certainly a more extraordinary group no where exists. Two lofty masses are seen to occupy the top of an eminence, which is fenced round by broken and rounded fragments of huge dimensions, that have the appearance of rocks still exposed to the action of water and the rolling in of heavy seas, which fret and foam through their rents and hollows at every tide, and dash their spray over their loftiest pinnacles. This illusion would be complete but for the dwarf oaks and hazel bushes which beautifully mantle their southern side. But the supposition is not simply conjectured as to their original condition, when viewed geologically, supposing all our present continents to have been at one time under water. And the rolling in of these tides may have scooped out the hollow basins supposed by Mr. Rooke and others to be artificial. To the eastward of these rocks, on a part of the common now enclosed, we observed traces of the NINE LADIES, a Druidical circle, con-

sisting of nine stones. We next paid a visit to Carcliff, and Durwood, or Peha. Tors, (Peha Farm just beneath), which are less elevated, and appear a plain at the top, but on approaching them they are found to be fissured and broken, lofty, bold, and craggy, to the south. On the top are rock basins, and on descending the south-west end of these remarkable rocks, there is a natural cave called the Hermitage, which quite escaped us on our first and second visit, simply because we did not go to the bottom, or quite under the lofty rocks. Two yews, each surrounded by a stone wall, front the entrance, and a dwarf oak overhangs it. There can scarcely be a doubt of this sequestered spot being the chosen retreat of a hermit or religious devotee, who, finding this natural cavity so suitable for retirement and repose, surrounded as it is with all the elements of wildness and grandeur which minister so effectually to a spirit of religious enthusiasm, chose it for the purpose, and sculptured out a representation of the Redeemer on the cross in the solid rock. This is on the east side of the cave; and on the right of the figure is a small oval recess, formed for a lamp or taper to burn during the time of devotions. The bold character of the rocks, the beautiful groves at their feet, and the romantic structure of the surrounding country, tending to invite a spirit of devotion, confirm the supposition that the cave was a hermit's cell. Much as we deplore that morbid and misguided feeling, which leads to monachism or absolute seclusion from a world, we must enter our strong protest against the rude (we had almost said savage) feeling which would mutilate and deface such interesting relics of the past, for such are standing evidences of the history of the period in which they originated, and beacons to warn us of the danger of being led only by the imagination, instead of the enlightened judgment in matters of religion, which concern us deeply for eternity. The length of the figure and crucifix is about three feet, but the prominent parts of the arms, nose, and feet, are knocked off, and the figure otherwise defaced.

The north-east of these rocks is not unlike some parts of the romantic Rocks at Matlock. There are huge masses, clothed with oaks, Spanish chestnuts, &c. On the south, viewed from the grove below, they are magnificent, presenting overhanging portions and perpendicular faces, as smooth as rubbed ashler, and fretted at the top as a sort of Gothic finish.

On the top of these, as already noticed, are rock basins, said to be artificial (which we very much doubt), and an impending crag or rocky canopy, which overhangs what has been denominated an augurial seat. At Durwood, on removing a large stone, an urn was discovered half full of burnt bones, and near to it two ancient querns, or hand-mill stones, flat at the top, and somewhat convex on the under side, about four inches and a half thick, and nearly a foot in diameter; the upper stone so much less than the under one, that being placed on it, it could be turned round within its rim.*

We left this fine group of rocks, and proceeded again through a beautiful grove to Eagle-stone, and from thence to Router, which is scarcely half a mile distant. Very lately the proprietor, W. B. Thornhill, Esq., has repaired and enlarged the old cottage, and converted it into a small inn, to accommodate the parties visiting the rocks—a desideratum long wanted here, in case of foul weather, or for any needful refreshment. This extraordinary and massy pile of rocks, which range east and west, extends in length nearly eighty yards, and in height about forty, quite isolated from any other

Gough's additions to the Britannica. Such stones have been found in Yorkshire and Wiltshire, and are still in common use in the Hebrides.

part of the Moor, and they derive their name from the term "roos," "to rock"-a provincialism applied to the rockingstones which are found on the summit; hence, "Roo-tor," or Router.* Near the east end is a vast block, weighing about fifty tons, of irregular shape, which could be shook with ease, till the mischievous efforts of fourteen young men moved it from its position in 1799. We are glad to state that Mr. Thornhill has, at considerable expense, had the stone replaced. The necessary apparatus was obtained from Chatsworth for the purpose. A little to the north is a huge oblate or oval stone, so nicely poised that the application of the finger and thumb will move it; and at the west end there is a roundish broken group piled up together, consisting of six or seven stones, which move in a remarkable manner on touching the lower stone at the eastern angle with some force, that is, attempting to move it up and down.

Beyond these are several chairs cut out of the rock, commanding the most extensive and beautiful prospects of the fertile vales and lofty eminences of the Peak. There is a great deal of artificial work about these rocks, such as benches chiselled out of the rock, caves, and passages; in the largest of which there is a fine echo, but these cannot be of ancient date, as the marks of the pick are very visible and fresh. The caves were probably formed about the time of the chairs, which are said to have been executed by the direction of Mr. Thomas Eyre, who inhabited the ancient manor called "Router Hall," near the foot of the hill on the south, upwards of eighty years ago, and who used frequently to entertain company on this elevated spot. Here are still the remains of a summer-house, and the terraces have been artificially formed, by being built up where required, to obtain sufficient breadth for the purpose.

About a quarter of a mile on the west of these is another group, called Bradley Tors, which we did not visit. In the neighbourhood there are also numerous remains—druidical circles, an ancient British encampment, &c., which, as they are only of sufficient interest to the antiquary to induce a

visit, we also passed over.

^{*} Archælogia, vol. vi. p. 110.

BUXTON.

THE VISITOR'S INDICATOR,

OR

ROAD SKETCHES AND WALKS AND DRIVES TO ALL THE OBJECTS OF INTEREST IN BUXTON AND ITS VICINITY.

Principal Places.	Objects & Intermediate Objects. The natural tepid Baths, by the west wing of the Crescent, and the hot Baths by the east, open from six in the morning till nine at night, and St. Anne's Well, for drinking the waters, open the same time—The
BUXTON	Objects to be seen in Buxton at any reasonable hour
SERPENTINE WALKS	Entered from the road opposite the Old Hall, and extend nearly a mile on the Burbage road by the river Brown, or rustfe Summer-houses, &c. &c.
COTTAGE OF CONTENTMENT	quarter of a mile out of Buxton, and take a path to the right
WHENCE THE ROUTE MAY BE CONTINUED TO	
DIAMOND HILL	Half a mile further by Fern House, return by Foxlow House, which will agreeably vary the walk
POOLE'S HOLE	One mile through the upper town by the Cheshire Cheese and Methodist Chapel, taking the middle or Leek road, return across the fields by a path which leads into the Serpentine Walks

Principal Places.

Distances and Intermediate

Objects of Interest.

6. AX EDGE .. Objects.

Two and a half miles by the new Church on the Leek road, by the Rev. H. P. Hull's house on the left, keeping straight on to Ladman's Low toll-bar (here, on the right, is Burbage, and the level colliery on the left quicing Lime left, curious Lime houses, Kilns, and Quarries)-take across the High Peak Railway, and one mile up the Leek road turn up the Moor to the Beacon

The highest point in Derbyshire—Commanding Views
—In clear weather the
Lighthouse beyond Liverpool may be seen, and other very distant objects with a good glass.

RIDES AND DRIVES.

LIME HALL

About twelve and a half miles by Whaley-bridge and Disley

A fine old interesting Hall-Antique Furniture and Carving-Tapestry, Pictures,&c.—Asplendid drive down the slopes of the gritstone to Whaley.

THE DUKE'S DRIVE.

This comprehends a circuit of about four miles, through part of Ash-wood Dale. The road turns to the right, and skirts up over the top of the Lover's Leap, and then into the Ashbourn road, and so again into Buxton

A remarkably pleasant drive, affording interesting and romantic views.

HEE TOR, MIL-LER'S DALE, CRES-BROOK, ETC., ETC.

Five miles by Ashwood Dale to Topley Pike. Send the carriage round by Elackwall Dale to Wormhill-gate, and walk along the margin of the river by Blackwall mill. Cross the Leaping-stones there, and then proceed by the goat or sheep tract to Chee Tor. To those who cannot walk far, go by Fairfield to Wormhill. Blackwall Dale to

One of the most magnificent Tors in the county, and very romantic and Alpine scenery.

Whence the route may be continued down to Miller's Dale, Litton Mill, Cresbrook and Monsal Dales. The whole scenery is extremely beautiful and romantic. Return by the Marble Works in Ashford and Taddungton village; or by limiting the excursion, return, after meeting the carriage, up Blackwall Dale, after getting a peep into Miller's Dale. The fishing is beautiful in this part of the Wye: the Author has seen nearly a dozen rods busy here in the season, even in wet weather.

There is a most interesting drive to Hollingsclough in the Dove Valley, and on to Longnor and Crowdy-court (6 miles), and so home by Church Sterndale. Another drive may be taken as far as Flash and Dove Head, on the Leek road, about four miles and a half. From a hill which can be pointed out at the Inn at Flash, there is a magnificent prospect.

nificent prospect.

Garden-Terraces, &c.

s. Objects of Interest.
A Princely Palace—splendid
Sculpture gallery — State
Rooms—Exquisite Wood
Carvings—Tapestry—Pic-Principal Places. Distances & Intermediate Objects. Fourteen miles through Ashwood Dale, by Tad-dington, Ashford, and Chatsworth Inn, in the tures-Pleasure Grounds and Gardens-the most CHATSWORTH Park magnificent Conservatory in Europe. A most romantic Old Hall of the Elizabethan period, once the residence of Sir George Vernon, the "King of the Peak," uninhabited, but still kept in complete repair—Fine old state bed —Tapestry or Arras—Pic-tures—Carvings in wood— Fourteen miles as above, through Bakewell from Ashford, or continue the HADDON HALL....

WHENCE THE ROUTE MAY BE CONTINUED TO

route from Chatsworth by Rowsley, and through Bakewell home

The Hot Springs and Bathspetrifying wells-Caverns— Romantic rocks—Heights of Abraham—Zigzag walks of Abraham—Zigzag warks
—Masson Low, with the
loveliest scenery—Lovers'
Walks and boats—the
Museums—New Church,
Willersley Gardens and Twenty-two miles, or eight 12 MATLOCK from Haddon Grounds.

WHENCE THE ROUTE MAY BE CONTINUED TO

Eight miles (or thirty from Buxton) through Lea, Holloway and Crich— eminently fine scenery... Fine Old Manor House in ruins, where Mary Queen of Scots was imprisoned for two years. SOUTH WINGFIELD . MANOR ..

WHENCE THE ROUTE MAY BE CONTINUED TO

Nine miles further, or seventeen miles from Matlock Bath,through Stret-lock Bath,through Stretbethan period—Furniture
"en suite"—Old Tapestry
—splendidPortrait gallery, ton, Morton, and Tib-shelf, or 28 miles from HARDWICK HALL .. the whole quite unique-Buxton,by Ashford,Bas-low, and Chesterfield... prisoned here eight years.

The most beautiful Dale and Seventeen and eighteen scenery imaginable—Ilam Old Church—Fine Monumiles. Pursue the Ashbourn road by Newhaven ment, by Chantrey-exqui-DOVEDALE & ILAM-House; turn off two miles farther on, opposite the park gates of Sir Henry Fitzherbert, up Spend-lane, &c...... site pleasure grounds, and Hall in Elizabethan style— Fmergence of two rivers near each other, Hamps and Manifold. HALL

WHENCE THE ROUTE MAY BE CONTINUED TO

Fine Old Church and Monuments, one exquisitely lovely, by Banks-Gram-mar School, &c. Four miles from Dovedale, and twenty from Buxton ASHBOURNE

ROUTE CONTINUED TO

Principal Places.

Distances and Intermediate
Objects.

Objects of Interest.

ALTON TOWERS*....
the Earl of Shrewsbury's.

Nine miles further, or twenty-two miles through Leek

A most extraordinary Gothic house—Splendid and Extensive Picture Gallery—State rooms—Gorgeous chapel—Objects of vertu—the most beautiful Gardens in Europe.

ROUTER ROCKS, BIRCHOVER, & WINS-TER

Seventeen miles, or three from Haddon Hall, by the old Ashbourne road to Winster

Remarkable hanging rocks— Gritstone rocks and cliffs— Cave and crucifix in Durwood Tors—Robin Hood's stride, and old British encampment.

EBBING & FLOWING <

Five and a half miles on the Castleton road, through Fairfield, by Barmoor Clough

A curious intermittent Spring, worth seeing when it flows.

WHENCE THE ROUTE MAY BE CONTINUED TO

CASTLETON ... Six and a half miles farther (or twelve from Buxton), through Spar-row-pit by Perry-foot and Mam Tor

Remarkable Caverns—famous "Peak's Hole"— Speedwell Mine, and interesting Fluor Cavern— Mam Tor, or Shivering Mountain—Bold and wild scenery, and beautiful view of Hope Dale.

ELDON HOLE Three miles from Castleton and ten from Buxton, near the village of Peak Forest. See the account given

A remarkable cavernous opening on the side of Eldon hill in the limestone —Many wonderful stories related respecting it.

* This House is only shown on Tuesdays and Thursdays; the Gardens every day except Saturday and Sunday.

Buxton is distant from London 160 miles—Sheffield 27—Manchester 25—Bakewell 12—Matlock 22—Derby 38—Ashbourne 21—Dovedale 17—Chatsworth 14—Castleton 12—and from Alton Towers, by Leek, 23.

GEM OF THE PEAK.

PART IV.

EXCURSION TO BUXTON.

BY HADDON, BAKEWELL, ASHFORD, AND TADDINGTON.

CHAPTER I.

SITUATION OF BUXTON.—REMARKS ON ITS ANCIENT HISTORY,—MODERN HISTORY,—CRESCENT.—CHURCH.—WATERS.—REMARKS ON THE BATH CHARITY.—EXTENT.—INNS.—LIBRARY.— MUSEUMS.—POST-OFFICE,—PROMENADE ROOMS,—ADVANTAGES OF BUXTON, ETC.

The line of route being already given as far as Ashford,* and also an ample notice both of that place and Bakewell, nothing remains but the drive between the latter town and Buxton; but it should be again observed, that parties who have not visited Monsal Dale, might do so from Ashford, (ten minutes' drive), and, if time permitted, they would find it an agreeable walk from the top of the Dale, proceeding down through it to the south end, where the carriage might be ordered round to meet them, at a point considerably advanced on the Buxton road. But the Marble Works should not be omitted in the first instance. Proceeding from thence the country becomes still more bold; the lofty side of the Great Finn bounds the road on the north, and a beautiful sharp ridge, covered with copse, and the rippling Wye, is on

^{*} See page 151.

the South. Nearly a mile from Ashford, a bold angle of the Great Finn, where it recedes northward, exposes an immense mass of the Toadstone, always distinguishable by its dark colour. Here we cross the Wye, and soon come upon the fine south opening into Monsal Dale, the Peak of the Finn* rising proudly to the right, and Taddington Moors to the From this point diverge two of the most interesting Dales in Derbyshire, Taddington and Monsal. is already described, t and we shall now have the pleasure of pointing out the former. The road is here considerably on the ascent, and continues to rise rapidly till nearing Taddington village, bounded by richly-wooded and magnificent eminences and overhanging crags, disclosing their vast mass and ivy-mantled forms at every winding of the Dale, which, when lit up by a declining sun, has a most pleasing and animating effect—the light and shade, or "chiaro-oscuro," being then in perfection-masses of light resting on some of the bold crags and eminences, and streaming down some of the mountain brakes, while others are cast into deep shadow. In fact, this Dale presents a most imposing sight at such a time, and is always pleasing, being one of the most picturesque parts of the county.

It was on one of the loveliest evenings imaginable in August, the last time the author went up this interesting Dale. Then the light and fleecy clouds flitted gently and with much beauty across it, mantling the lofty peaks with their floating masses.—This, combined with the ever-varying scene below, of wood and rock, of rough shingle and lovely mountain glade at every turn, had a very delightful and striking effect. The road emerged from this wild, secluded, and interesting spot, from between masses of the black limestone, in sight of the village of Taddington, which is bleakly situated on the lofty moor, and possesses no interest except from its position. A little above this village the road attains a higher elevation than perhaps any other in Derbyshire, as scarcely anything appears in the whole range of the wide

+ See page 152.

^{*} On the summit of this eminence that overlooks Monsal Dale, was a large barrow, about one hundred and sixty feet in circumference, composed of broken limestone, to obtain which the barrow was destroyed. Within this tumulus various skeletons, rude urns, arrow and spear heads of flint, some memorials of ancient customs, and a piece of black dressed marble were found,—all these relics are indications that this barrow is of a very remote age, and belonged to a primitive and barbarous people.

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horizon except barren and lofty ridges of moorland, rising majestically one above another like the rolling waves of a mighty sea. Two miles beyond this brings us again to the verge of the precipice which overlooks the Vale of the Wye, (Topley Pike) which is deeply interesting. The road, cut out of the rock, takes down the fearful steep, and commands beautiful views of the river, flowing amongst rocky fragments, and the opposite hill sprinkled with dwarf firs, which seem to start out of the vast patches of loose stones covering its almost perpendicular side.—Descending this, the hills become stony and less interesting till reaching the rocky chasm, called the Lover's Leap, through which the road and river pass, enclosed by vast mural masses of limestones, fringed with the hazel and hawthorn .- Here the river is almost lost amidst the huge blocks that invest it.

BUXTON-ITS SITUATION AND CLIMATE.

Buxton is situated chiefly in the lower part or hollow of an open valley, on the extreme verge of the carboniferous limestone, out of which its Hot Springs issue—and at the foot of the lofty ridges of the gritstone, which here form a segment of a circle, answering as a noble defensive screen from the piercing winds of the north-east, north, and north-west, while the lower eminences of the limestone bound the south of the valley, which is open to the south and east.† Buxton

+ The author is aware that a low ridge of the limestone is to the north of Buxton; but he is here speaking of that great and continuous boundary as seen from a distance, which towers above these and such like ridges.

^{*} This is called Topley Pike.—Mr. Rhodes, in one of his excursions, having arrived at this point, makes the following remarks—(Peak Scenery, page 80)—" While I was in the Dale below, contemplating the steep acclivity of Topley Pike, I was startled from my reverie by the sound of a coachman's horn, that came gently upon the ear, when I was least prepared to expect such a greeting. Shortly a stage-coach appeared, which seemed actually to issue from the clouds that obscured the higher elevations of this stupendous hill; and I observed it pass rapidly along, where the eye could scarcely discern the trace of a road, and where, to all appearance, a human foot could with difficulty find a resting place. Had I supposed this vehicle to have contained within it beings like myself, I might have shuddered with apprehension, but the coach, from its great height above me, looked so like a child's toy, and the sound of the horn was so soft and unobtrusive—so unlike the loud blast of a stage-coachman's bugle—and altogether the place was so unfitted for the intrusion of such an object, that it appeared more like a fairy scene, or a picture of imagination, than anything real and substantial."

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thus situated is admirably protected from the extreme severity of the weather, which is never felt in an unpleasant degree till the lofty peaks surrounding it are invested with snow, and then the Buxton season, which generally lasts from May till the end of October, is closed, and the delicate invalid, either much improved or absolutely cured by its healing waters, has migrated to his native home, or to some warmer

position in the south.

But it must be obvious to every one, on the slightest reflection, that the air of Buxton cannot be otherwise than extremely salubrious and healthy, its elevation not being less than between nine hundred and one thousand feet above the level of the sea, while the loftiest points in its immediate vicinity attain nearly twice that height: so that the invalid may inhale the pure and invigorating air of the highlands, and the spicy fragrance, carried on the wings of the wind and diffused throughout the entire valley, which exhales from the heather and many a virgin flower adorning the mountain's brow. The effects of this natural state of things are not long in being felt and manifested in an increased appetite, soon brought into powerful and craving action in the more healthy; * and though more slowly, yet it will be as certainly experienced by the more weak and delicate invalid; so that all, while enjoying the healing and potent virtues of the waters, may breathe a pure and unadulterated atmosphere, which is even more essential, in some cases, to the sickly, than all the medicines in the wide range of the London Pharmacopæia, however skilfully applied. And although experimentalists have often affirmed that the constituents of the air are the same in elevated as in low positions, no one who has ever snuffed

"The thin air upon the mountain top,"

can assent to the effects of the respiration being the same. The freshness of the mountain air, for ever kept in a state of purity by the blowing wind, is bracing and exhilarating in the highest degree, and its ethereal penetrations seem to unmask the spirit and draw forth its best aspirations; at the same time it largely contributes to the health and vigour of the human frame. The position of Buxton appears to command all these advantages.

^{*} This most persons must have experienced on spending a few days at Buxton; and, to do the Innkeepers credit, there is no lack of the good things of this world, coupled with a ready, civil, and obliging attention.

We subjoin here the latitude and longitude of Buxton Crescent.

The approach to this celebrated Watering Place, which once presented little else than a cheerless desert—sterile heathy moors, scarcely relieved by a single tree or shrub, belting it for miles around, and hardly exhibiting any traces of fertility or improvement, has within the last thirty or forty years been much improved by the munificence of the Dukes of Devonshire, who have spent considerable sums in planting trees, forming rides and drives, and giving every encouragement to an agricultural people to advance the culture and increase the fertility of this originally wild district. Buxton therefore now enjoys some most beautiful and interesting drives for miles in several directions; but none is more strikingly so than the one from Ashford, which we have just described to the traveller; but we must introduce to his notice a few

GENERAL REMARKS ON ITS ANCIENT HISTORY, DRUIDS, ROMANS, ETC.

The early history of Buxton, like most other ancient places, is involved in obscurity.—Happily, however, this is a matter of very little consequence; therefore we shall spare ourselves the labour and toil of searching after old musty volumes, which is more properly the business of the antiquary, than the duty of one compiling a small work of this kind, which is intended as a Simple Guide to the

Stranger.

Whether the sanative properties of the Warm Springs were known to the primitive inhabitants of the Isle of Britain is wholly conjectural, but from the knowledge attributed to the Druids, who, like the priesthood of all rude nations, stood in the triple relationship to their people of Priest, Legislator, and Physician, and who possessed all the knowledge attainable in their age and day, that they had some acquaintance with the virtues of these Waters, and consequently could recommend their use, is highly probable: for Buxton is in the immediate vicinity of many of those lofty stations where they had their groves, formed their magic

circles, erected their Cromlechs, on which they immolated their victims, and where they held their "Gorseddau," and harangued their people. But we are not disposed to attribute to the Druids, as some have done, such vast acquirements, as that "they were acquainted with the virtues of every plant, the nature of every fossil, or the properties of every spring;" yet, from practical experience, they may have discovered and known many of the results and benefits, while they remained wholly ignorant of the nature or causes of them.* Dismissing the Druids, one thing appears certain, that this place was actually known to the Romans. This people, wherever they went, like the cultivated nations of the present day, introduced all the elegancies, comforts, and modes of life known to them. Hence they improved and adorned all the rude and savage tribes over whom their arms triumphed, and were thus made instrumental, by an over-ruling Providence, in binding together the most distant nations, and paying the way for the introduction of that great and glorious faith, which was ultimately destined to banish the stern nature of the Roman government, and the iron despotism of its rule, from the face of the earth.+

A manuscript of Dr. Gale's, quoted in Gough's additions to the Britannica, shows that this eminent antiquary placed the Aquis of Ravennas at Buxton. That it was known early to the Romans, and became one of their most important stations, is obvious from the fact that two of their principal military roads intersected each other at this point, one connecting Manchester with Little Chester, and the other line running from Chester, through Congleton, to Brough, a Roman station near the village of Hope. This road was clearly traced by Mr. Pegge, many years ago. These went by the several names of the Bathway, or "Batham Gate,"

"Street Fields," "Old Gate," &c.

One may easily conceive how speedily the rude cottage and mud hut of the ancient Briton, with probably only a hole through the roof like the modern Highlanders, answer-

* This kind of practical knowledge is seen in some of the simple "panaceas" of our shrewd and clever Old Women.—We should never attribute to a people more than their circumstances warrant.

⁺ This was partly accomplished in the reign of Constantine the Great, who embraced Christianity, and it will yet be finally accomplished by the subjugation of every power hostile to the Cross, and the peaceful sway of the Son of God.

ing for the chimney, gave way to be replaced by the elegant villa and beautiful structure of the polished Roman.—How soon, in fact, the rude mountain hamlet, with its rustic huts, was exchanged for the fashionable watering place, under the reforming hand of these masters of the world. But we must forbear enlarging here, and observe, that numerous vestiges have been found of Roman workmanship and taste—for bathing was one of the greatest luxuries of this people, in which they indulged to a great extent.

MODERN HISTORY.

Bishop Gibson mentions the existence of a Roman wall, "cemented with red Roman plaster, close by St. Anne's Well, where are the ruins of the ancient Bath." This was taken down in 1709, by Sir Thomas Delves, of Cheshire, who, out of gratitude for a remarkable cure he received from the use of the waters, erected a small stone alcove over the well. Capacious leaden cisterns and other articles, evidently Roman, were discovered when digging the foundation. The ancient Bath was discovered in 1781, on clearing and cutting away the ground to commence the building of the Crescent. Its form was an oblong square, approaching to the figure of a parallelogram (dimensions thirty feet by fifteen). The spring was found at the west end, and the outlet, or floodgate to let off the water, at the east. The wall was constructed of limestone, with a coating of strong cement outside, and the floor, a composition of lime and coarse sand, saturated (it is said) with blood. Near one end a singular cavity existed, resembling the shape of a boat. The water was conveyed into this by a leaden pipe.* Coins also of Constantine the Great have been found here, so that every doubt is dissipated of this place being once occupied by the Romans, who always fortified and garrisoned the lines of intersection of their great roads.

It is generally supposed that the beautiful remains of Roman antiquity were destroyed and almost obliterated by the Picts, who detested the Romans, and over-run and subjugated this country, when that people withdrew their legions from Britain in order to defend their eastern frontier, and when the enervated and now pusillanimous inhabitants, were left to shift for themselves, to battle as they could

^{*} Pegge's Essay on Roman Roads.

with the more hardy and still unconquered Highlander. From this time, through all the stormy and unsettled times of the Heptarchy, till about the era of the conquest, Buxton seems to have been totally neglected; but from that period, it is presumed it began to be noticed and resorted to not-withstanding the Monkish annalists say nothing respecting

it during the middle ages.

In the sixteenth century we find it had obtained high and deserved reputation, which was much enhanced by a work written by Dr. Jones,* an eminent Physician of Derby, on the beneficial qualities of the waters. This appeared in 1572. The first commodious house for the reception of visitors was erected only a short time previous to this publication, by the Earl of Shrewsbury, on the site of the building now called the Old Hall; which occasioned the waters to be much more resorted to, and especially after the visit of Mary Queen of Scots, who was brought here for her health, under the care and custody of Lord Shrewsbury, accompanied by his Countess, Elizabeth. The last time the unfortunate Princess was allowed to visit this place, she applied to it the following lines of Cæsar upon Filtria, with a slight variation:—

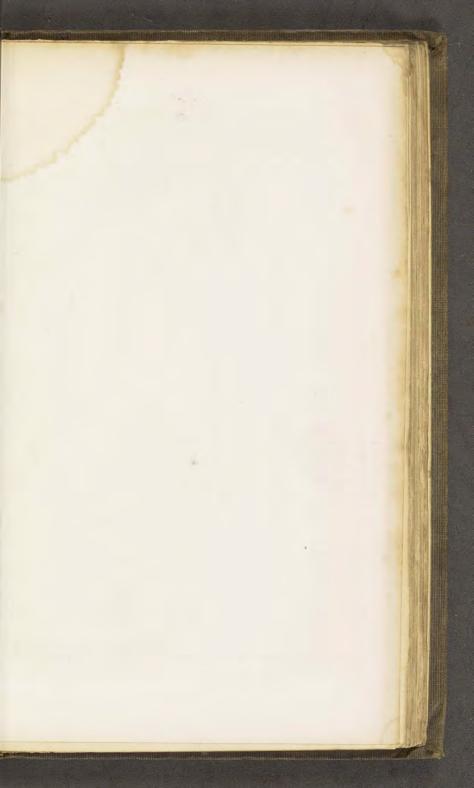
"Buxtona, quæ calidæ celebrabere nomine lymphæ, Forte mihi posthac non adeunda, vale."

"Buxton, whose fame thy thermal waters tell, Whom I perhaps, no more shall see, farewell!";

The Hall was again taken down, rebuilt, and much enlarged, by William, third Farl of Devonshire in 1670, and has since been greatly improved, and continues one of the principal Inns for the reception of company. It has this advantage, that the Baths are included within it. From that time, down to the present moment, Buxton has acquired an increasing celebrity, and has consequently been resorted to by vast numbers in all ranks of life, during the season. The influx of company gave an impulse to building, and many structures were reared in the upper town, on the Hall Bank and neighbourhood—some of them good Inns and Boarding Houses, for the accommodation of the more wealthy, while ample means were also provided for the

* Entitled "Buxtone's Bathes Benefyte."

[†] This occurs on a pane of glass, in one of the rooms she occupied in the Old Hall, and part of the ancient furniture used by her is still shown.





G. From Cheltenhoom

comfort and convenience of the poor invalid; and here Buxton perhaps stands unrivalled in its beneficent attentions to the poor, of which we shall speak presently; in the meantime we must direct our attention to the commencement and erection of a structure of no ordinary magnitude, which forms a prominent feature in the history of Buxton, and exercised considerable influence on its destinies, and that is,

THE CRESCENT.

It appears that the late Duke of Devonshire, who watched over the rising prosperity of this spot with great interest, which induced him to buy up all the Inns and Boarding Houses he could, to pull down, and rebuild them on a larger scale and in a better style, still thought more was wanting to accommodate the vast influx of visitors who came from all quarters for a few months in the season-and as the inhabitants were few in number, and not wealthy, depending solely on visitors, and having no trade or agriculture to help them forward, no gigantic speculation was to be looked for from them; his Grace therefore determined to erect such a range of buildings as should afford ample and princely accommodation for all, whether they came simply for pleasure or health. Hence the splendid pile of the Crescent, dictated by such a spirit of munificence, and executed in a style of grandeur, as if intended solely for the residence of a prince, was commenced about the year 1789, and completed in seven years afterwards, at a cost of £120,000.* The design was by John Carr, Esq., an eminent provincial architect, who superintended the whole building. It is in the Doric order of architecture-perhaps the best adapted of all others for dwellings, from the simplicity and beauty of the style. It is composed of three stories; the lower one is a rusticated arcade, forming a beautiful and convenient promenade for the visitor in wet weather, or on scorching days, and amply provided with seats for their accommodation; this is seven feet wide within the pillars (which support the two upper stories), and eleven high. The floor of the arcade is raised at least three feet above the gravelled area in front, between

^{*} It is said that this sum was the produce of the Ecton copper mine, in Staffordshire, the property of the Duke of Devonshire, which netted some weeks the amount of £10,000. This mine is now quite exhausted, and all the lower workings filled with water. Its depth is about 1,500 feet.

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which communications are formed by several flights of steps. An elegant balustrade skirts the front and ends of the building; the span of which is nearly three hundred and seventeen feet. The divisions between the windows over the piers of the arcade, are formed of fluted Doric pilasters, that support the architrave and cornice; the triglyphs of the former, and the rich plancere of the latter, are specimens of workmanship rarely excelled, and have a beautiful effect. Another balustrade raised above the cornices, and extending all round, much enriches the building, in the centre of which is the Devonshire arms, well carved. The inner circle of the Crescent is two hundred feet; each wing measures fiftyeight feet, and the number of windows is three hundred and seventy-eight. It is built of the gritstone obtained near the spot, and faced by a fine grained variety of the grit, termed provincially freestone.

The Crescent is now divided into one hotel, several boarding and lodging houses, and shops. St. Anne's Hotel is in the west wing; the Assembly Room is in the east wing*—a noble and well proportioned apartment, with a projecting cornice, highly enriched with various appropriate ornaments. Over this, just under the coved ceiling, are a number of low oval windows (but unseen) which throw the light softly and

beautifully over the top part of the room.

The great stables at the back of the Crescent, but considerably elevated above it, next demand our notice. These are considered the finest in Europe; their form outside is that of an irregular polygon or octagon, the opposite sides of which are equal and similar, but inside the area is a circle sixty yards in diameter, round which is a covered gallery or ride, where the company can take exercise on horseback whenever the weather proves unfavourable for going abroad. In these stables (which belong to the Crescent Hotel) there is abundance of accommodation for horses, carriages, &c. The cost of their erection (£14,000.) is said to be included in the £120,000.

NEW CHURCH.

The author can well recollect, when visiting Buxton many years ago, seeing this elegant structure in progress, which

^{*} This wing contained the Great Hotel, now converted into fine lodging houses.

+ The length of this room is 75½ feet—30 wide, and the same in height.

forms such a beautiful object viewed from any point, and is a great ornament to Buxton. The order is Tuscan, and the execution and workmanship admirable. The east front has large columns, supporting a massive pediment, and on the west is raised an elegant tower; the building has altogether a substantial appearance, and is one of great beauty. The interior is well finished, and in a style which is extremely chaste and suitable. It was opened in August, 1812. The patronage is in the hands of the Duke of Devonshire, by whom it is built. It is dedicated to St. John; it stands in the township of Fairfield, and belongs to the parish of Hope.

The old Church is fitted up and re-opened for Church service, which is performed in it every Sunday afternoon at three o'clock, and on the evenings of Thursday. We are glad to find the Day and Sunday schools in connexion with the Church here are prospering; also an Infant School. For these institutions we have a peculiar affection, because we think them more calculated in the end to benefit our race than any previous methods ever adopted. First impressions are always the most durable, and have the most decided effects upon the future life of the individual. The Rev. R. P. Hull is now the respected incumbent of Buxton, who is a zealous promoter of every thing that is good for the present and future welfare of the flock over which he presides. Buxton also contains a good-sized Independent Chapel; and a handsome new Methodist Chapel, and schoolrooms in connection, have been recently built.

The Square is a plain substantial building, having an arcade, which communicates with that of the Crescent, and forms a covered way of considerable extent (about two hundred and eighty yards). The Square is let off as Lodging

houses and Shops, and private Houses.

The Hall Bank, Scarsdale Place, and other parts of the town, contain good buildings, which our limits forbid us to notice; suffice it to say, Buxton has rapidly improved and been much beautified within the last quarter of a century. The fine eminence* in front of the Crescent is most tastefully laid out in terraces and serpentine walks, intersecting each other with ornamental vases here and there, and convenient resting places at intervals, all the loftier points affording pretty views of the country. From this point the Crescent is a fine object—and altogether Buxton may be said to stand "St. Anne's Cliff."—On the top of this originally existed a Barrow.

unrivalled for its size, and for the elegance and beauty of its buildings, which are much enhanced by contrast with the surrounding wastes of the Peak.

THE WATERS-THEIR ORIGIN, NATURE, AND USES.

The cause of springs, whether cold or hot, arises from the interception of water in its descent through the strata by dislocations, faults or fractures, which intersect them. There are two systems by which water is returned to the surface; one is, a simple diversion of the water, descending from the higher regions of the strata, when it arrives at the fault, it flows out of the brow or side of the hill. The other is caused by water ascending from below by hydrostatic pressure, and derived from strata, which, at their contact with the fault, are often at a great depth.* This latter appears to be the cause of the Buxton Hot Springs; but as we have already treated of the cause of the heat, and given to the winds all the fanciful conjectures of the old school, we shall beg simply to refer to our 37th page on this subject, and proceed to their qualities as of much more importance.

"The Buxton waters," observes the late Mr. Page in his treatise, "are fairly entitled to the appellation of a mild saline mineral, the temperature of which, at all seasons of the year, is pretty uniformly eighty-two on Fahrenheit's scale. are perfectly pellucid and inodorous; and owing, most probably, to the large proportion of nitrogen gas which they contain, devoid of that vapid taste so observable in ordinary

water when heated to the same temperature.

"To their purity, to the mildness and uniformity of their temperature at all times and seasons, neither depressing the vital powers by cold, nor enervating them by heat; and to their impregnation with nitrogen gas may be attributed, in

no inconsiderable degree, their salutary effects.

"It is true the effects of nitrogen on the human body have not yet been fully investigated; but when we reflect upon the large proportion of this principle at all times present in the body, that it forms a constituent of almost every texture, and that it is probably absorbed by the stomach, lungs, and skin, we cannot doubt of its importance to the animal economy."+

And Sir Charles Scudamore's opinion is that "The active

See Buckland's Bridgewater Treatise, Vol. I., page 560.
 Brief observations on the Buxton Waters, by the late T. J. Page, Surgeon to the Buxton Bath Charity.

material substances in the Buxton water are, sulphate of soda, muriate of lime, and muriate of magnesia; but when we look at the very minute proportions, not a grain of either article in the gallon, and recollect that sea water, which, as an aperient, is taken without inconvenience, contains in the gallon two hundred and eighty-four grains of muriate of magnesia, and rather more than forty-five grains of muriate of lime, we are compelled to believe that the medicinal action of Buxton water must be referred to its purity, its temperature, but, above all, its gaseous impregnation with azote. I believe that the influence of this gas taken into the stomach

is very considerable."*

We also here give an extract from an elegant little work, by Dr. Robertson (a resident Physician), entitled "Buxton and its Waters," who observes, "that the amount of solid matters contained in these waters is so trifling, being in reality less than is found in almost any common spring water, that every attempt to theorize on their effects from what we know of the nature of these constituents, must necessarily fall to the ground. What we do know is, that in the cases adapted to their use, they not only cease to stimulate unduly, and cease to interfere with the action of the bowels and of the kidneys; but their use is followed by a marked improvement in these particulars, and is found to be decidedly beneficial to several of the diseases with which man is afflicted.

"The effects produced by these waters when used internally being similar to those produced by them when used as a bath, they are of service in most of the cases to which their external use is found to be beneficial. But they are to be regarded as being by no means equally efficient when taken internally, as they are found to be in the form of the bath; although the effect of the waters drunk, superadded to that of the bath, is often found to be greater than consists with the satisfactory treatment of the case, and renders it necessary to intermit, or wholly discontinue, the drinking of the waters. This should be duly attended to, as in cases where there is some tendency to excitement, although not to such a degree as to render the use of the bath inexpedient, it is better not to attempt to use the waters internally, until the degree of effect that may be produced by the bath has been ascertained.

^{*} Analysis and Medical Account of the Tepid Springs of Buxton, by Sir Charles Scudamore, M.D.F.R.S.

At the same time, as these waters when used internally are much less active in their effects than when used as a bath, they may be taken advantageously in many cases in which the use of the bath would be improper. The degrees positive, comparative, and superlative, applied respectively to the internal use of the waters, the artificially-heated baths, and the baths at the natural temperature, will perhaps explain their relative amount of effect sufficiently well."

Dr. Pearson was one of the most successful inquirers into the nature and chemical constitution of these waters. He was the first to express a doubt as to the nature of the gas which impregnated the water, which was originally considered to be carbonic acid gas instead of azote. We shall therefore give Dr. Pearson's Analysis, with that of Dr. Murray's and Sir Charles Scudamore's.

ANALYSIS BY SIR CHARLES

21112127	10 11	oth Chamber.	
GASEOUS CONTENTS.		SOLID CONTENTS.	
Carbonic Acid	1:50	Muriate of Magnesia Soda Sola Sulphate of Lime Carbonate of Lime Extractive matter and a minute quantity of vege- table fibres Loss	2·40 ·60 10·40 ·50 ·52
	6.14		15.00

SOLID CONTENTS AS GIVEN BY-DR. MURRAY. DR. PEARSON.

Grains.	G	rains.
Carbonate of Lime 115	Sulphate of Soda	
Sulphate of Lime 2½	Muriate of Lime	.57
Muriate of Soda 13	Muriate of Soda	1.80
153	Muriate of Magnesia	
104	Carbonate of Lime	
	Extractive matter and loss	1.20
Tamporat	mre 82	15:18

The water is recommended to be taken an hour before breakfast, and again about twelve at noon. The medium

quantity about half a pint each time.

"The quantity of waters," observes Dr. Robertson, "taken every day varies from half a pint to a pint and a half, or from this to a quart. Half a pint is the quantity commonly taken at once. It is usual to take the first dose before breakfast, and the remainder during the forenoon. It is justly considered to be most improper to drink the waters shortly before going into the bath. There can be no doubt that the

waters produce more sensible effects when taken before breakfast, than when taken at any later period of the day. What has usually appeared to be the best way of proceeding, has been, to begin their use by drinking slowly a quarter of a pint about two or three hours after breakfast, repeating this dose in about half an hour. If this is found to agree perfectly well, to take the doses more quickly. If this is productive of no sensible inconvenience, to take a third of a pint at each time. Then, if no contra-indicating circumstance arises, to take a third daily dose, of the same quantity, from half an hour to an hour before breakfast. If the waters still produce no sensible inconvenience, to increase the dose taken at each time to half a pint. It is seldom necessary to take more than a pint and a half of these waters every day; but cases do occasionally occur, in which it is found to be by no means wise to restrict the patient to the use of this quantity of the waters; but in which considerably more, and probably twice this quantity, is taken with ad-

Walking and exercise are absolutely needful. The more obvious effects of these waters are said to be those of a mild stimulant and tonic; increasing in a remarkable degree the strength and energy of the nervous system. When the author took them they affected the head with a slight giddiness, and which they almost invariably do in the first instance, but which speedily passes off, and produces the most beneficial results on the stomach and bowels, but care should be taken not to take them in large doses, lest the contrary effects should be produced. In all cases it is the safest to get the opinion first of a medical man, as the state of the system is a matter of primary importance before either taking the Waters* or using the Baths, which is our next point of consideration, and by which alone Buxton is rendered a blessing

to thousands.

The Bath is recommended to be taken about the middle of the day, and should be persevered in, notwithstanding the gouty patient may feel his pains increase for the first few days, for this shows that they are producing their proper effect. Care should be taken to avoid taking cold. The following are the diseases to which, by a successful application of the waters, a cure may be looked for, as stated by an

^{*} In some cases they prove too great a stimulant, especially during any inflammatory action of the stomach or bowels.

old surgeon (the late Mr. Page), whose Treatise on these

Waters has been already referred to:-

"In that state of weakness and irritability which so generally attend on the subsidence of febrile and imflammatory affections, but more especially on the protracted stages of gout and rheumatism: in many nervous disorders, such as epilepsy, paralysis, St. Vitus's dance, palpitation of the heart, tic doloureux, &c., as in many anomalous complaints, originating in or complicated with, a disordered state of the digestive organs, a judicious employment of the Buxton waters will frequently be attended with the happiest effects; and this too in spite of chemical analysis and the opinion of those persons who affect to doubt their virtues, because neither they nor their chemical friends have been able to discover the ingredients on which such virtues should depend." We add here the opinion of Dr. Granville, the last medical writer on these celebrated waters. The Doctor observes, that "the efficacy of the Buxton waters used as Baths at their natural temperature is more strikingly manifested in cases of general debility, partial paralysis, and that peculiar state of weakness which is the result of rheumatic affection and repeated attacks of gout. In the latter cases, indeed, Buxton has acquired a well-known reputation."* In another place, where the Doctor is speaking of the chemical ingredients of the waters, and comparing them with those of Schlangenbad, he says—" Here, at Buxton, we have a water at nearly the same degree of heat, with fewer ingredients, still producing, not only similar but even more energetic effects." We consider these opinions of the author of the "German Spas," in favour of Buxton, of some consequence; a testimony the more valuable, as we fancy it seems to have been given with some degree of reluctance.

THE NATURAL TEPID BATHS

are situated between the western extremity of the Crescent and the "Old Hall;"† they are six in number; two are appropriated for the use of ladies—one private and the other public; and one public and two private for gentlemen, and one is the Charity Bath for the poor. The gentlemen's Bath is in a room thirty feet by fifteen, and fifteen high.

^{*} Spas of England, Midland Division, page 44. † The company residing at the Hall, or St. Anne's Hotel, can pass into the Bath under cover, which is a considerable advantage to weak and delicate invalids.

The Bath itself is about twenty-six feet by twelve, and about four feet and a half deep. It is paved with gritstone. The Springs flow up on the south-east side of the Bath, through the fissures of the black lime-stone.* It is calculated that all the Springs throw up the water, which is constantly running through the Baths, at the rate of sixty gallons per minute. So that the three large Baths would be entirely replenished in about two hours and thirty minutes. All the Baths are good, and exceedingly commodious, and are provided with forcing-pumps (the douche), by which the water may be directed against any part affected with considerable force. Screens and water-proof dresses are provided, to enable any part to be pumped on without rendering it necessary to immerse the rest of the body. A convenient machine is in readiness, to lower the helpless and extremely infirm into the water; and, as Dr. Robertson observes, "no means are left untried, to deprive the bathers of Buxton of what has been said to be necessary to Englishmen,"-" a something of which to complain and at which to grumble." Comfortable dressingrooms, bathing-gowns, towels, and every requisite needed, are here, for the comfort and convenience of the bathers.

The private Baths are admirably fitted up, and well attended to. The natural temperature of the water is extremely agreeable to the feelings; a slight shock is felt at the first immersion, which is succeeded by a pleasant warmth; and the bather is delighted to find his "aches and pains" relieved for the time being, under the emollient and benign influences of these waters. The douche-pump should be applied freely to the part most affected; and no person should remain longer in than from four to fifteen minutes. The Bath should never be entered immediately after eating or taking the waters, as dangerous consequences may ensue. One Bath in twenty-four hours is considered sufficient in the most severe cases; but once in every two or three days in general ones. Mr. Page gives the following five rules, which

"First to go into the Bath about the middle of the day.

we shall take the liberty of stating :-

^{*} Dr. Granville has been decidedly misinformed as it regards the source of the hot springs, when he says they flow through the sandstone, and the bottom of the Baths is composed of it. A single glance at the geological position of Buxton (which is on the limestone and the limstone shale) would convince any one conversant with the subject that sandstone could not exist there. It is much higher up to the north and west.

Second—To go into the Bath when the body is warm. Third—To go in with the feet first.

Fourth—To remain in the water first but a very short

Fifth—To bathe on alternate days, or to miss every third day."

The opinion of Dr. Denman respecting the stimulating and active properties of these waters, has been fully confirmed by succeeding writers, and "their use has been interdicted during the actual existence of any undue determination of blood to particular organs; during the existence of all febrile and inflammatory action, and in all visceral obstructions." Consequently no invalid should have recourse to them without proper advice.

THE NEW HOT BATHS.

Up to the year 1818, there was no means provided to give the visitors of Buxton a Bath of a higher temperature than the natural water.—A disadvantage which is now removed by the new Hot Baths. They are constructed upon a plan devised by Mr. C. Sylvester, and are situated on the east wing of the Crescent, and connected with it by a covered way which leads from the great Hotel to the Baths. They are lined with white marble and Dutch tiles, and are elegantly fitted up. The water may be raised to any temperature, by the action of steam, without destroying its native properties. Dr. Granville speaks highly of these hot Baths, as well as of the gentlemen's elegant private Bath of the natural temperature, and observes, " I can conscientiously aver, from my extended experience of mineral waters" on the continent, "that persons afflicted" with the diseases named, "who require the aid of a suitable mineral water, will find that needful aid at Buxton, provided they abjure, on proceeding thither, the sad and interfering practice of constantly drugging their stomachs by way of treatment, and leave nature to nature alone -namely, the mineral waters, and the pure, elastic, and bracing mountain air of the Spa."

The usual place for drinking the waters is at St. Anne's Well, nearly opposite to the Hotel of that name, over which is reared a chaste little building in the Grecian style, surmounted by an elegant urn. Some female is always in attendance to serve the visitors, and is satisfied with a small gratuity on their leaving. The water is conveyed from the

Spring-head in a covered gritstone channel to the tap, where it falls into a white marble basin. Its temperature here is 81°.

Behind St. Anne's there is a spring of cold water, which, by its juxta-position with the hot spring, is reputed one

of the wonders of the Peak.

At the back of the Crescent, close by the road-side, is a chalybeate spring, under an elegant canopy, with a person in constant attendance to present you with a glass of this water. This is used as a tonic with the greatest advantage; it is sometimes used in connexion with the tepid, when it acts as a gentle aperient. It is also reputed as an excellent eye-water.*

THE BUXTON BATH CHARITY.

We now come to notice one of the distinguishing features of Buxton, which we heartily wish was imitated in every watering-place over the globe, and that is, its merciful interposition on behalf of the poor patient, who has not the means of obtaining the benefit of its healing waters but by the public bounty. This Charity is upheld by the munificence of a few individuals, and the trifling subscription of one shilling by every visitor, who is politely requested to enter his or her name in the subscription-book, with this small sum appended on the first day of the party dining in Buxton, either at the Inns, Boarding or Lodging Houses. By these means, hundreds of our poor population throughout the county, and beyond it, are enabled to avail themselves of the benefit of these potent waters. Two sermons are annually preached in the Church (as well as at other places) for the benefit of this Charity, upon which occasion His Grace the Duke of Devonshire has more than once manifested his regard for this Institution, by condescending to hold the plate to receive the collections. Every such subscriber is allowed to send one poor patient, who is furnished with medicine, the best medical advice, the use of the Bath gratis, and allowed five shillings per week besides for their support, for three successive weeks.

A great addition has been recently made to the comfort and convenience of the poor invalid, by the erection of an ELEGANT LITTLE BUILDING, as a waiting-room, so that any number of them may now wait their proper turn to consult

^{*} See "Buxton and its Waters," p. 127.

the medical gentleman, any length of time, without being exposed to the severity of the weather in our changeable climate. This convenient place, which does credit both to the head and heart of those who moved in its erection, is situated at the back of the secretary's house (Mr. Mugliston) and immediately connected with the consulting room. The entrance is from the road leading up to the High Town.

The institution is under the management of Trustees. A committee of the nobility and gentry (visitors at Buxton) annually audit the accounts, upon which occasion some nobleman takes the chair. A donation of £10. constitutes a subscriber for life, with power to send a patient annually.

We are glad to observe that by a resolution passed in 1844, the Board of Guardians of the different unions are allowed to send one patient annually for every guinea subscribed to the charity.

The following gentlemen have kindly given their services to the Institution, gratis:—

Physician-W. R. Robertson, M. D.

Surgeons—Mr. Carstairs and Mr. Cumming, Members of the Royal College of Surgeons.

Secretary-Mr. Mugliston.

BUXTON BATH CHARITY.

We here simply give the results of one year of this important Charity.

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N. B. Every Subscriber may recommend a patient; and in order to do so, must address a letter (post paid) to Mr. Mugliston, "The Secretary to the Buxton Bath Charity," stating the age, character, and circumstances of the patient, to which letter due attention will be paid, and an answer transmitted with as little delay as possible; but, in consequence of several inappropriate cases having been sent, there must be annexed a medical certificate of the nature of the complaint, and his or her fitness for the use of the Bath, without which certificate the patient must necessarily be sent back. Every invalid, duly recommended, has the advantage of Medical Advice and the use of the Bath, together

with an allowance of five shillings per week (if standing in need of such pecuniary aid) for the space of three weeks.

This excellent charity has relieved, in the course of twentyone years, upwards of 25,000 patients, the greater proportion of which had the gratuitous use of the Baths, Medical Advice and pecuniary assistance, and upwards of 16,000 of this number have been dismissed "cured or much relieved."

"Blessed is he that considereth the poor; the Lord will

deliver him in the time of trouble."-Psalm xli. 1.

EXTENT OF BUXTON.

The population of Buxton we find by the census of 1841 to be 1,500. The greater part of the town has been built with a view to accommodate the visitors, both in what may be termed the old town and the new, but the latter almost wholly consists of the best and most magnificent buildings. It is said that the inns, hotels, board and lodging houses, can conveniently accommodate fifteen hundred strangers, a number equal to that of the native inhabitants, which will give a tolerable idea of the extent of accommodation in Buxton for its size; and it may be truly said that this is of the very best kind. The style of the houses being almost all modern, or after a Grecian model, with good airy rooms, possess every comfort the most fickle or fanciful visitor could wish.

There are also abundant means of transport to all parts of the kingdom, either for passengers or luggage. There are plenty of coaches, daily, from Buxton to Manchester. The day Mail from Manchester to the Derby Station, passes through each way about one o'clock; also a coach, the Peak Guide, and Omnibuses, every day, through Bakewell and Matlock, to Rowsley Station, of the North Midland Railway. Besides these there are daily coaches to Sheffield, through Bakewell. For all heavy goods, the High Peak Railway is within a mile and a half; the proprietors of which have a station within a mile of Buxton. It occupies nearly a

central position betwen Sheffield and Manchester.

The great bulk of the letters from all parts arrive in Buxton at half-past eight in the morning by a mail cart from Chesterfield through Bakewell, which returns in the evening at five, half an hour before which all letters must be posted. The day mail only brings some of the letters from Derby and Manchester, with those from the intermediate places.

The Inns and Posting Houses are eight in number, of

which we shall simply give the name and situation, having already spoken of the superior accommodation at Buxton generally: St. Anne's Hotel, Crescent; the Hall, close by, and the George, Square; the Grove, Irongate; the new Royal Hotel, a splendid building, lately erected, and the Shakspeare, Spring Gardens; the Eagle, and the King's Head, Market Place.

The TAVERNS and PUBLIC HOUSES are the Cheshire Cheese; the Sun; the Queen's Head, and several other good and

comfortable Houses.

The Post Office is next in succession to the Library; but having already named the hours of receiving and despatching letters, we shall pass on to the splendid Repository of

Messrs. Bright and Co., watch-makers, jewellers, and silversmiths, situated in the centre of the Crescent. Here is a beautiful and costly display of all that can adorn the brow and grace the "neck of beauty," every description of jewellery, watches, and the best cutlery; to which is added, a choice and magnificent assortment of elegant vases, urns, obelisks, inlaid tables, &c., of Derbyshire workmanship, in the spar and marble, manufactured on the premises. Messrs. B. and Co., are importers of foreign fancy articles of the choicest description. Almost every person stopping in Buxton takes the opportunity of visiting this elegant Show Room, which has been in high repute for thirty years. This respectable firm, which has establishments at Sheffield, Leamington, &c, transacts the chief part of the Banking business of Buxton and its neighbourhood.

ASSEMBLY AND PROMENADE ROOM.—The old promenade rooms are now divided, one part being converted into offices, for the use of Mr. Smither, who has succeeded the late Mr. Heacock, as the Duke of Devonshire's steward. The other part is now converted into a Library—Mr. Sutton's, who is

the proprietor of the Buxton Herald.

The fine Assembly Room, in the south wing of the Crescent, is now made also the Promenade Room, since the Great Hotel has been converted into a lodging house, and forms an agreeable lounge to the visitors of Buxton, especially in wet weather. An excellent band of music performs during the season on the mornings of Monday and Wednesday, and in the evenings of Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. The reviews and magazines, the London and some provincial papers are taken in. The admission to non-subscribers is one shilling per diem, but the subscription

for the season or any other limited period is moderate. These rooms are open from six in the morning till nine at

night, and are a great acquisition to the visitor.

At the lower end of the Hall Bank we find Mr. Crowder's spar shop, with an excellent display of the Derbyshire manufacture, which will well repay a visit from the stranger; and a little above this is the elegant and well-stocked Bazaar of Mrs. Bower, who, in connexion with the spar and marble trade, has an extensive assortment of clocks, toys, &c., and also carries on the business of watch-making. Besides these, we have the shops of Mr. Evans, and Mr. Turner, who has also a Circulating Library, in Spring Gardens, both good shops; and a variety of others for the sale of natural curiosities, which we must beg to pass over, as it would be but a repetition of one and the same thing. The Herald office (Mr. Sutton's) is on a part of the old promenade room, Crescent.

WATER-WORKS in the Market-place. There, enclosed by a railing, is an elegant structure in the shape of a cenotaph, surmounted by a vase, with the crest of the Duke of Devonshire in one panel, executed in the boldest relief; and attached to the plinth of the railing on the opposite side, are two taps, by which the people of the High town of Buxton may obtain water. The water has been brought here the distance of a mile. This is both an ornament and a great acquisition to this part of Buxton. And in consequence of the erection of this the inhabitants have revived the beautiful custom of "Wellflowering," which takes place annually on the 28th of June.

ADVANTAGES OF BUXTON.

It will be seen from these brief observations on the Shops, Ball and Promenade Room, Hotels, and general accommodation at Buxton, that it contains within itself abundance to interest a visitor.

And on this point we are happy to quote the observation of Dr. Granville, who states, that "there is hardly another Spa which can boast of so many resources to the invalid and the stranger fond of the beauties of nature, or the many productions, whether in geology or botany, with which the whole of the district around it abounds, as Buxton. This is no trifling boon to those who are compelled to pass a period of four or six weeks away from home, in the monotonous exercise of bathing and drinking mineral waters for the sake of health. It tends, indeed, to heighten the virtues of the Spa

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water, and helps greatly in restoring that elasticity and buoyancy of spirits, which are, at one and the same time, the cause and effect of renovated health. The sources of enjoyment, too, within Buxton itself, are neither few nor despicable; and what is, perhaps, more important to remark, because contrary to the usual sordid practice of other English Spas, the high-minded and liberal nobleman, lord of the place, here willed it, that all such sources of amusements—the garden, the promenades, and the band, shall be without rayment, and equally open to the poorer as well as to the richer classes of visitors. With all these advantages belonging to Buxton, it is a matter of surprise that medical men should not avail themselves more frequently of that Spa for their patients: for its reputation is not of the other day, but of Two CENTURIES."*

The Doctor should have said four centuries.

CHAPTER II.

RIDES, DRIVES, ETC., ETC.

COTTAGE OF CONTENTMENT, DIAMOND VALLEY, POOLE'S HOLE, SCENE ON THE HALL BANK, SERPENTINE WALKS, CHEE TOR, MILLER'S AND LITTON DALES, TERRIBLE THUNDER STORM, CRESBROOK MILL, MONSAL DALE, AXE EDGE, DOVEDALE, ALTON TOWERS, DRIVE TO LIME HALL, OBJECTS OF INTEREST, DRIVE TO CASTLETON, EBBING AND FLOWING WELL, ELDON HOLE, CONCLUDING NOTICE OF BUXTON, ADVANTAGES OF, ETC., ETC.

COTTAGE OF CONTENTMENT AND DIAMOND HILL.

In August last, the author was determined to visit this farfamed spot. His time being limited, he engaged with a friend to proceed to it as early as half-past five on the morning following his arrival in Buxton. We were therefore up with the lark, and a more beautiful morning could not be witnessed. The dew fell heavily during the night, and the countless dew-drops on the tender blade, shrub, and lovely flower, greeted the approach of the god of day, by reflecting back his image from their beautiful orbs; and the vegetable kingdom seemed gemmed over and robed in loveliness and beauty. How fair and fragrant is creation at such an hour!

^{*} Spas of England, Mid. Co., page 56.

How calculated to draw out the best feelings of the heart! "The sweet breath of morn" fans the cheek with refreshing coolness. The buoyant lark is up on joyous wing, singing its matin song and filling the spirit with its gladness, and nature wears her most winning mantle. What an interesting and impressive picture of the morning of youth does such a scene exhibit!—all the springs of life, moral and physical, are then fresh and vigorous, as yet unaffected by the moral "pestilence that walketh in darkness," and unimpaired by intercourse with a truant world; and how often is its fair beauty, its virgin vigour, as fleeting as those crystal drops which are speedily exhaled under the influence of that rising sun. Too often is their "goodness as the early dew and the morning

cloud." But to proceed.

Our point of meeting was the Crescent, and our first object St. Anne's Well, to quaff a glass of its healing waters, but the gates were locked. This difficulty gave way to the ingenuity of my friend, to whom bolts and bars seemed as nothing. From thence, proceeding up through the Market-place, and taking the London road for about a quarter of a mile, we took a lane to the right, and over two fields, to the Cottage, This belongs to a singular old situated under Grin-low. man (Bagshaw Brandreth), who has followed the occupation of a gardener many years, and chiefly inhabited this lone cottage, where, as time and opportunity permitted, he has laid out and ornamented his little garden, building rustic and fanciful summer-houses, making tables, chairs, and seats, in unison-all painted in harlequin colours. The diminutive, but elegant parterres, decked with the daisy and many indigenous flowers, have a pretty effect, and altogether it presents an air of clean quiet beauty-in fact, all the externals of its significant name, "The Cottage of Contentment." "What's in a name," observes the great dramatic bard of our country. Names are often as illusory as the midnight dream and the moving shadow, which perish with the light. We shall not, however, attempt to lift the filmy veil which often covers a name, or adorns a favourite haunt. Here the Buxtonian or the stranger at times agreeably whiles away his hour-drinks his tea, or sips the sparkling glass, attended by the obliging host.*

^{*} Parties take their own provisions.

BUXTON DIAMONDS.

From hence we followed the narrow field path up to Fern House (Mr. Needham's), Counter's Cliff; passing through the farm yard and turning to the right, under some low crags, we found the place where the Buxton Diamonds exist in abundance, in the hollow, or ravine, formed between Grinlow and Landman's Low. On descending the hill and examining this spot, we observed that it was traversed by the vein of the Grin-end mine, the principle shaft of which is about a mile to the north-eastward, now worked for Sulphate of Barytes, or "Cauk,"-and as it exhibits every appearance of having been worked throughout the course of this hollow, it may be presumed that the greater part of the loose matter here accumulated, is the refuse of the workings, and may have been brought from considerable depths; and as I am informed that a mass of these quartz crystals aggregated was found in this mine,* it is probable that these detached and beautiful crystals belong to the limestone measures, which is often productive of fine quartz crystals. But I am also inclined to think many of them are produced from the destruction of the gritstone, which is disintegrated and washed down by violent rains and torrents into this hollow. The crystals are often found perfect hexagons, terminated by sixsided pyramids, sometimes perfectly clear, and in other cases "cankered," as the provincial phrase is, or reddish brown, being coloured with oxide of iron. The clear or transparent are found in the black soil, formed chiefly by the decay of vegetable matter, and the washing down of the peat from the moors, and the other in the red clay. They are from an eighth of an inch long to one inch: one that the author obtained was of a beautiful amethystine colour, and most perfect; but parties are not now allowed to look for them as formerly, owing to the damage done to the pastures. These, like all quartz or silicious crystals, scratch glass. Abundance of them are to be had in the shops of Buxton and Matlock.

The author has, since he examined this point, obtained a quantity of these beautiful crystals from one of the dells of the limestone, near Winster, in a position which induces him to believe they originate in the Toadstone, and their present disattached state in the clay is the result of the destruction of the Toadstone, which proceeds rapidly wherever it is exposed.

^{*} This specimen is now in the Manchester Museum.

This measure often contains Geodes, the interior of which is

lined with quartz crystals.

Having satisfied our curiosity in searching (what should be called) Diamond Valley, we proceeded to the Tower lately built by order of the Duke of Devonshire on the hill above, and which forms a conspicuous and interesting object from Buxton. On attaining which, we had a splendid view of Buxton and the surrounding country—of hill and dale—of the lofty distant Peaks of Kinderscout, the Lord's Seat, Taddington Pastures, and Chelmerton Low—and nearer home, to the north-west, the towering point of Axe-Edge.

Almost the entire of Grin-low is covered with lime kilns. They gave to this hill originally a strange and uncouth appearance, but the plantations now rapidly getting up, hide the greater part of them. The hill is composed of a bluish limestone, admirably adapted for making lime of the very

best quality, which is transported to great distances.

In many of the old hillocks, composed of the dross and slag from the kiln, and which are of great extent, some of the peasantry have formed themselves houses, called Lime Houses. Breaking through the outer crust, which becomes exceedingly hard and waterproof, the parties excavate all the interior, wall it up inside, and divide it, make windows, and perforate a hole through the top for the chimney, and by these means obtain a cheap and tolerable dwelling; but it is said not to be healthy. Several of these we passed, on descending through the plantation. At the foot of this hill, and within a short mile of Buxton, is Poole's Hole, an object of interest to the visitor. We passed close by this, but as time did not permit, we did not explore its hidden recesses then, but this year we thought it our duty, before going to press with another edition, to examine it.

POOLE'S HOLE

is supposed to derive its name from an outlaw, called Poole, who secreted himself in its gloomy caverns. Others suppose he was a hermit who chose this dismal cell for his place of abode. "The entrance to this cavern, which is considered as one of the seven wonders of the Peak, on the outside is in the form of a compressed arch, and is so low and narrow, that the visitant is obliged to proceed in a stooping posture, for nearly eighty feet, when the passage widens considerably, and we presently enter a very large opening with some-

thing like a coved roof. We then immediately ascend what are termed the "wool packs," a series of broken ledges of rock, waterworn and covered with stalactite, which occupy one side, and overhang the small stream that passes through the cavern. Here we found two conical masses of stalagmite, the top of one of which was singularly perforated by a drop of water incessantly falling from the roof always on the same point. Directly opposite to this, and pendant from the centre of the dome, is the "Flitch of Bacon," a large and curious mass of stalactite. On bearing slightly to the left, and passing over rude blocks, here as every where covered with stalagmitic matter, we got into another compartment of the cavern of a somewhat circular structure. In the extremity of this, in a compressed part of the opening, hangs Mary Queen of Scots' Pillar, so named from a tradition of that Queen having visited the cavern, and advanced to this point, which indeed is as far as any one would wish to go, the remaining portion being contracted into a very narrow chasm, or pipe-work, or vein, common in the limestone, and when the water is out, during heavy rains, it is impossible to proceed farther. The pillar, as they term it, is a magnificent mass, or group of stalactites aggregated, which, as the author apprehends, are masses of limestone, originally wedged into this part of the cavern, and left pendant when it was formed by volcanic agency, and subsequently covered by stalactitic matter. The florid character of the material deposited has a fine effect, and the huge mass nearly reaches the top of an elevated spot on which we stood, covered also with stalactite, under which the water issuing from the chasm beyond us, rushed furiously. After admiring this part we returned by a lower route, and beheld blocks of limestone of varying size and form, covered with stalagmite, many of which were serrated and rippled with it in such a way as to resemble water when gently moved by the wind; one of these blocks is called the "Beehive," and in form and general appearance not altogether unlike the reality. various other parts we saw grotesque forms and prominences covered with stalagmite, with equally fanciful names given to them, such as the Lion, Poole's Saddle, his Turtle, Woolsack, Lady's Toilet, &c., &c. But these forms must be constantly undergoing slight changes from the perpetual deposition of the material from the water, which is always issuing from the roof and sides of the rock. We descended at this point into

the bed of the stream, and by a lower route reached the "Woolpacks," under which parties are led by the guide in dry weather, but during floods this is impracticable, as was the case when we visited it. The Cavern is seen to the best advantage from this position. The overhanging masses of rock, covered with stalactites, have a bold and imposing appearance. The Cavern here too is lofty, and when properly lit has a most magnificent effect. On returning we observed the well or spring from whence the cottagers in the vicinity fetch all their water. This is the source of the beautiful Wye, which is engulfed near by, and again makes its appearance close to Burbage. We now again reached the low passage, over which there is a shelving rock, called oddly enough, Poole's Bread and Cheese Shelf. It is not a little amusing to hear the guides point out these matters with an air of sincerity and consequence, as if they really believed in them. The extent of this cavern has been much exaggerated; we should say it does not exceed five hundred feet to the pillar, beyond which it is far too narrow and uninteresting to penetrate. Nevertheless the Cavern, with its rich and curious incrustations, is well worth a visit, and especially from the interest thrown around it by the visit of Mary Queen of Scots.

Guides are always in attendance to show the visitor over the cavern.—The charge is one shilling. We now soon reached Buxton, and were admirably prepared for a good breakfast by a morning ramble of more than two hours and

a half.

On our return, the Hall Bank, the Crescent, and St. Anne's Cliff, presented a most animating, and even splendid appearance, to what it did when we quitted it in the morning. Then all was still, as if Buxton had been wholly untenanted; but now all was life, activity, energy, and beauty. walks on the Cliff were thronged with the gay and the lighthearted of all ages in the higher and middle walks of life, brought together from different parts of the three kingdoms and the great world. The rapid movements of the young and the healthy contrasted strangely with the slow and painful movements of a few individuals scattered amongst the throng, who, however, were generally found to prefer the low instead of the high ground of the Cliff. But all seemed inspired with confidence-every countenance gave indication of blooming hope. There is something so spirit stirring in the earlier part of the day, which seems to set despair at

defiance, and give buoyant hope to every heart, and greater elasticity to every foot, even to the feeble and infirm. The elegant equipages moving to and fro in the Crescent, added a grace and interest to the scene—altogether forming such a picture of life and energy as could hardly be expected to be found amid the barren heaths of the Peak. We obtained the first view of this inspiring scene shortly after passing the Eagle Inn, on reaching the top of the Bank.

THE SERPENTINE WALKS.

Along the course of the Wye, towards its source, northward (here reduced to a small but beautiful rivulet), these walks have been most judiciously formed, and afford an agreeable ramble to the Buxton visitor. The stream is made highly interesting by being deepened in places to give a greater expanse of water, and banked up in others to form miniature cascades. At suitable and convenient distances, seats, alcoves, or rustic summer-houses, are made for the comfort of the invalid. The whole is admirably laid out, and enriched with shrubs and luxuriant plantations. Near these interesting walks an elegant Conservatory has been erected by the late Philip Heacock, Esq. The entrance to the walks is opposite to the Old Hall.

A short ride may be taken by the Church, and past the Cottage on Edge Moor, to Beat, once occupied by Bishop Spencer. Near this point there is a tunnel of the High Peak

Railway.

The Duke's Drive is one of the most varied and interesting in the neighbourhood of Buxton, and, as its name imports, was wholly made at the expense of the Duke of Devonshire, who studies to accommodate the Buxton people, and to render this highly-favoured Watering-place as interesting as possible. This drive, through Ashwood Dale, quits the Bakewell road about a mile from Buxton; branching off to the right, and winding over the high ground, it skirts the top of the Crags that bound Wye Dale, and in which is the rocky chasm called the Lovers' Leap. From hence it leads through an open valley, and after a circuit of about three miles, it joins the old London road (now the Ashbourne and Dovedale), and enters Buxton by the Cheshire Cheese, affording at different points throughout the drive some views of deep interest, "and wildly romantic."

GENERAL DIRECTIONS FOR A DRIVE BY TOPLEY PIKE AND BLACKWALL DALE TO CHEE TOR, MILLER'S DALE, ETC.

The drive for about four miles along the Bakewell road, to the vicinity of Topley Pike, is exceedingly rich and beautiful through Ashwood Dale and Wye Dale. In this direction Miller's Dale (about seven miles) may be reached, and also Chee Tor, if the stranger has no objection to walk (and clamber sometimes over rocks) the latter part of the distance, leaving the carriage at the bottom of Topley Pike, and proceed along the margin of the river by Blackwall Mill, cross the leaping stones there, and then take the sheep track up the Cliff and over the rocks to Chee Tor, and send the carriage round to meet them. The scenery is so rich and beautiful that it will amply repay the toil and trouble. arriving at the top of the steep hill, or Topley Pike, and pursuing the Bakewell road about a mile, a road branches off to the right, which will take the stranger, if he rides, down to Blackwall Dale. At the bottom of this Dale is Milnhouse Dale bridge. Here the party may either take down Miller's Dale to Raven's Tor, or proceed upward to Chee Tor, and so home by Wormhill. Monsal Dale, already described, is not a great way below Miller's Dale. these Dales are objects of great attraction to the Buxton visitor.

EXCURSION FROM BUXTON TO THE CHEE TOR, MILLER'S DALE, CRESBROOK, MONSAL DALE, AND ASHFORD, IN 1838.

On proceeding to view Chee Tor, and these interesting succession of Dales, perhaps the most beautiful in the kingdom, we must take up by Fairfield. On Fairfield Common the road divides, one branching off to the right to Castleton, whilst that to Wormhill passes nearly straight on. This road is both hilly and rough till nearing Wormhill, where it becomes tolerably good. To strangers there can be little difficulty in finding the road, as there are only two, and both branch off the main road to the right before reaching the cross roads at the end of the plantations near Wormhill, where a guide-post will clearly indicate the proper course, to the right, down to this village. Here a guide may be obtained to take a party to the Tor, which is indeed necessary for a stranger. By the bridge opposite to Wormhill Hall, we turn into a farm yard, and pass on over a rather rugged road down

into an equally rugged dell, with craggy overhanging rocks. (Here we pass over the *steps* of the Toadstone.) Some singular names are given to these rocks, as, "Adam's Pulpit," &c. &c. Here, where the dell terminates in another, which takes upwards to the north, are the celebrated Wormhill Springs. These Springs flow up with considerable force from amongst fragments of rock, and issuing from many openings, they fall into the Wye just below the entrance to Chee Tor, which is separated from these by a bold rocky promontory, round which we wind to the Tor.*

SECOND AND THIRD EXCURSIONS IN 1842 AND 1850, WITH A DESCRIPTION OF THE ROUTE FROM BUXTON TO CHEE TOR, THROUGH ASHWOOD DALE, AND BY BLACKWALL MILL.

Determining to explore the solitary recesses of Chee Dale, comprising all that part which lies between Blackwall Mill, immediately beneath Topley Pike and Wormhill Dale, I set out from Buxton, early one morning in December, 1842-not a very favourable period of the year for such an excursion; but I had been disappointed in doing so before, and felt anxious to accomplish it before another edition of "The Gem" went to press. From the inaccessible nature of the ground, I had long imagined it to be an interesting walk; and so I found it - wild, solitary, and romantic in the extreme; gloomy chasms, bold overhanging rocks, and immensely steep acclivities, plentifully covered with brushwood and dwarf ash, so steep that it is difficult to keep one's footing on them, are the leading features through which the beautiful Wye has to make its way in this part of its course, and so pent up is it, and overhung with rock and foliage in parts, that the sun can ne'er illumine its gloomy bed.

I proceeded through Ashwood Dale to the Rocky Pass, which is the first fine object on this line. It was a bold undertaking to bring the Bakewell road through this wild spot. The gloomy recess of Shirbrook Dell breaks in about the middle of the Pass, and the towering angular rock on the right of its entrance is called the Lovers' Leap. The next

^{*} Some years ago it was an annual custom to have a well-dressing here. The neighbouring peasantry used to assemble, pitch their tents, erect booths, and enjoy themselves in the sports of the day in this beautiful and romantic ravine. It appears that this body of water is ingulfed at the Water Swallows beyond Fairfield, on the Castleton road, and after traversing a subterranean channel for about three miles, emerges into day at this point.

object is the Toll-bar, then Ashwood Paint mill; near which, on the opposite side of the road, are a series of fine springs leaping out of the tufa, which are very interesting. These are but a short distance from the foot of Topley Pike. But as the weather proved very unfavourable on the present occasion, and as I could not accomplish all I wished, I will describe the last tour I took, in April of this year, but not alone, as on the former occasion, as it is generally preferable to have a companion, in case of accident on passing through such rocky defiles and among such precipices. We therefore, at the foot of Topley Pike, took the rough cart-road which leads to Blackwall Mill, through the plantation, where we crossed the lepping (leaping) stones, and proceeded down the dale by the river's edge as best we could. We chose this side, because the other is impassable, and there is no other ford lower down to cross at this season of the year; but I am told in dry weather the stream can easily be crossed at

different points in the neighbourhood of Chee Tor.

We proceeded but a little way before we found ourselves surrounded on all sides by lofty overhanging crags, in some places quite inaccessible; and before we had proceeded three-quarters of a mile, we were stopped altogether by the character of the pass. Hitherto the rocks were confined to the top of the steep acclivities, but here was presented one awful rocky chasm from the bed of the stream to the top of the deep dale, and so narrow that the river passes beneath their shelving masses, and, darkened by their shadow, its sparkling waters are converted into a dark and gloomy pool, or yawning gulf, fearful enough to look upon. The whole space from hence, till the river emerges from the base of Chee Tor, is of a similar character. We had no alternative but to retrace our steps for a short way and take up the crags, making our way carefully, lest by one false step we should be precipitated to the bottom. We then pushed our way through the brushwood near the top, and came to a bold narrow promontory or headland, which runs out at least two hundred yards into an opening in the rocks on the opposite side; proceeding to its rugged and narrow point, we had a commanding view of the splendid crescent sweep of the Tor on one hand, and of the deep rocky gulf which stopped our passage on the other; and a more fearful scene we scarcely ever saw. To describe it would be impossible. Precipices, "fearful like and fell," and everything appa314

rently tossed in one wild confusion; the rocks covered with stunted trees and underwood, added a little to the gloom and the awful silence which seemed to reign in this place. And surely if there is a spot where the heart quails beneath the majesty of God, as exhibited in his works, it will do so here, in witnessing the wild scenery around and beneath the Tor. There is decidedly nothing like it in Derbyshire.

We now made our way over some low crags by a sheep track, which traverses the overhanging rocks that sweep round the face of the Tor, and from whence we had a full view of this giant rock. The path led down at the extreme angle by the narrow opening into Chee Dale, close by



CHEE TOR.

This is one of the most remarkable Tors in Derbyshire, both for its form and position. The entrance to it from the Buxton side, or west end, as we have shown, is wholly impracticable for visitors, the river being hemmed in between perpendicular rocks, where the beautiful stream assumes the appearance of a dark gloomy pool, and is of great depth in places; and even at the south end the rocks close in, in a similar manner, leaving on one side a narrow and rather difficult pass, just sufficient for persons to proceed singly

into this tremendous chasm. To our left, on entering, rises the Tor, which assumes the form of a magnificent curve, like a mighty Crescent, with its front formed on its convexity. The elevation is about three hundred feet,* and its circuit may be stated at a quarter of a mile. The top is deeply fissured and covered with light and elegant foliage, and here and there a yew and hazel may be seen starting from the broken rents of the face, "varying and adorning this stupendous elevation with picturesque beauty." The opposite Rock takes a splendid sweep, answerable to the curve of the Tor, and rises nearly to the same height, but assumes a different character, being divided into bands or ledges, and overhanging the chasm in places some yards, which, with the pendant foliage, looks like a spacious alcove, fit for giants to repose in. This is the result of fractures in the rock when upheaved by volcanic agency, and smoothed off since by the action of The whole forms a magnificent and even fearful picture. The lofty Tor on one side, the noble sweep of rocks on the other, both approximating to a point at the upper end, darkly shaded, the river issuing from the sombre and impassable abyss, and then spreading and flowing amongst fragments of rock, shrubs, flowers, and rich verdure, with which the bottom of the chasm is covered, and then again compressed between the gulf at the entrance, shut out from all the world, produces feelings of no ordinary character, that it would be difficult, nay, impossible to analyze.

We may observe, that "among the remarkable features which render the romantic county of Derby the resort of scientific inquirers, are those immense elevated projections, denominated Tors, and which geologists describe as being formed by broken and displaced masses of the limestone strata. One of these, well known to persons fond of investigating the manifestations of the violent changes caused by natural disruptions in the coats of the earth, is the High Tor, already described (page 80), and another, perhaps more remarkable still, is Chee Tor, which protrudes its stupendous mass, resembling a lofty sea-cliff, above its translucent waters of the small and meandering stream of the Wye."

[&]quot;There, where the Wye, with brightly sparkling wave, Chafes 'gainst th' encumbering rocks, no sound

^{*} Some say three hundred and sixty feet, but the author thinks even three hundred is an over statement.

Save when the martlet from the beetling cliff'
Utters his shrill cry in its rapid flight,
Breaks the wild stillness; there the high Chee Tor Lifts up its head, in solitude, to hear His distant brother cliff's, who, as they guard The southern coast of Albion, howl aloud Responsive to the winds, that, 'mid their rocks, Roar as they hurl the freighted waves on high 'Gainst their white bulwark, and beneath them sinks Many a vessel with its shricking crew.'**

HAMMOND.

"The two extreme ends of this crescent rock," observes Mr. Rhodes,† "are of lesser elevation than the middle," and they approach so closely to the step-like and richly wooded masses of the "opposite side of the dell, as to leave but a narrow channel for the river." Considerable fragments toppled from the heights, covered with lichens and mosses, are scattered over this area. "It is scarcely possible to imagine a place more abundantly stored with picturesque materials and studies for the artist than this secluded dell."

On returning to our carriage on our first visit, and proceeding to Miller's Dale, we were much struck with the amazing number of lofty Peaks presented to the eye, from one of the eminences overlooking it. Well might the Poet, J. Montgomery, who wrote his beautiful Poem of the "Peak Mountain" here, give birth to the following stanzas:—

"My soul this vast horizon fills, Within whose undulating line Thick stand the multitude of hills, And bright the waters shine."

"Above, beneath, immensely spread Valleys and hoary rocks I view, Heights o'er heights exalt their head Of many a sombre hue."

"With rude diversity of form
The insulated mountains tour;
Oft o'er these cliffs the transient storm
And partial darkness lower;
While yonder summits far away,‡
Shine sweetly through the gloom,
Like glimpses of eternal day
Beyond the tomb."

We observed to our right, and but a short distance from us, the towering hill of Priest Cliff, the giant base of which

^{*} Fisher's Picturesque Illustrations.
+ Tourist's Guide, page 205.
+ This is particularly applicable to the view obtained on ascending the heights above Litton Mill.

skirts the greater part of Blackwall Dale on the south side, and where quartz crystals, or what are termed "Derbyshire diamonds," may be obtained among the loose matter on the side of the Cliff.*

We descended to the toll-bar situated at the bottom of Blackwall Dale, up which a party may proceed again homeward, if time or inclination prevent them going further down the dales. On our tour this year we walked from Chee Tor to the toll-bar by the stream, and found it very pleasant. Here is some good fly-fishing, especially below the bar, where we have seen half a dozen rods actively employed at one time. Here is the commencement of

MILLER'S DALE.

The view down is exceedingly beautiful and picturesque; a series of crags rising one above another, terminated by the gigantic overhanging rock of RAVEN'S TOR, bound the view; the intermediate spaces filled up by bold eminences, covered with verdure, and the rippling and sparkling river flowing between.

Under Raven's Tor, where we proceeded, many parties take refreshment, seated immediately on the black Toadstone, which is observed to skirt a part of the east side of the Dale. A little further down we come to the splendid pool or lake, (as it may be called), above Litton Mill, at the lower end of which stands the Mill itself, an object of interest in such a scene of seclusion. At the Mill the Dale becomes impassable, at least for carriages, and we had therefore to take up a remarkably steep hill to get to Cresbrook. About three parts up this lofty eminence we had a most magnificent view of an immense district to the south-east and west, to which the beautiful lines already quoted more properly belong.+ The great Finn and Longstone Edge appeared right and left In the distance the lofty hills around Chatsworth, Haddon, Winster, Matlock, with the multitude of lovely vales that isolate them, and adorn and distinguish Derbyshire, are laid beneath the eye of the spectator like a splendid picture. The Dale connecting Miller's and Cresbrook seems to be beneath your feet. The best point to view this is about two hundred yards below the plantation. We moved on through this and soon got into a good road leading from Tideswell to Cresbrook.

^{*} See the account of Buxton Diamonds, page 306. + See page 316.

The proprietor of Cresbrook Mill has built here some beautiful cottages in the Swiss style, for his work-people, on the very brow of the lofty hill overlooking Cresbrook, which have a charming effect amid this truly Alpine Scenery; and, thanks to this spirited gentleman, the roads are excellent, and although taken down the fearful steep bounding Cresbrook, where the whole is covered with luxuriant plantations, with the drag on, we bowled down in fine style, and soon passed the extensive mill of Cresbrook, and the house of the proprietor (—M'Connell, Esq). It is a wonderful structure in such a position, for we seem here shut in on all sides, apparently far, very far from the great world. It is indeed a romantic spot, and highly calculated to draw out the splendid powers of a Montgomery or a Miss Seward, who seemed to have been delighted with it.

We now soon reached the secluded farm-house about the middle of Monsal Dale, described in our tour to Chatsworth, to which we must direct the attention of the stranger, where a full description is given of this sweet vale, and which ter-

minated our romantic tour upon this occasion.*

The road is good but very steep up to the Castleton and Ashford road. The top is within a mile and a half of Ashford, and parties may proceed round and visit the marble works, and so home to Buxton by Taddington Dale, &c.

LITTON DALE.T

This part of the series of interesting Dales, which lies between Buxton and Ashford, is wholly impassable, except for pedestrians, and even they must have considerable courage to get through a part of the pass where the footpath, or rather goat track, is so narrow, and leads over such a fearful precipice, that only one can cross at a time, and then it must be with a clear head and a sure foot, or be toppled into the deep and dark stream far beneath. This part comprehends all that space lying between Cresbrook Mill and Litton Mill. With the exception of a short distance, just below Litton Mill, the Wye pursues its way between solid walls of limestone, lofty, precipitous, and frequently overhanging, and enclosed on all sides by some of the highest ground in Derbyshire. It is a profound and obscure spot, where few

^{*} See Page 152. + We have named this "Litton Dale," because we found no one could give a name to it.

venture, except perhaps the botanist, or bold angler, and that only occasionally. One narrow and very rough path on the left of the stream is the only one practicable; and to get to this parties must cross the leaping stones by the farm, in Monsal Dale, half a mile or so below Cresbrook. omitted to cross there, and did not find out our mistake till we reached Cresbrook Mill. Here we found the men belonging to it cutting a new water-course, in which they found some very fine tufa, covered in part with stalactites. One of the managers, on learning our position, very handsomely offered to pull us across the beautiful lake above the Mill in their boat. A sail is always delightful (barring storms); but, here moving over the placid bosom of the deep lake, amongst scenery so wild and magnificent as at Cresbrook, it was thrilling in its interest. The lofty perpendicular limestone walls which invest it on either side, form but the basis of towering hills which start from their summit. The one on our right was covered with plantations, the bold rock mantled and overshadowed by them; on the left and in front, the bright green grass, with an occasional dwarf ash. mantled the mountain's brow, but behind us the lofty peak of Longstone Edge appeared dark with dwarf foliage. The whole scene was rich in interesting objects, and truly magnificent.

It was a little before noon, on the 15th of July 1841, when we entered this unfrequented pass. The morning was fine and the sky clear, with the exception of some heavy clouds which lay on the horizon at different points, undissolved by the rising sun. These gradually accumulated during the morning, and moved upwards slowly to the zenith in heavy trailing triangular masses, boding no good, but still we hoped for a fine day. It was exceedingly sultry, and the sun's rays darted fiercely through the openings of the clouds, and we were glad of the shadow of the rock, which overhung our pathway. We found a part of the pass where it suddenly turns north-west,* a complete ruin on the bottom, owing to a slip in the limestone. At the top of this vast mass of broken fragments issued a spring of water, laid bare by the slip, which nourished abundance of plants, (mosses, lichens, the wild rose tree, &c.), covering part of this ruin with beauty. In other places we picked up a variety of fossils, some tolerably perfect; of the Pro-

Just before reaching this, there is a very clear and powerful echo.

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ducta, Terabratula, Spirifers, and also Madrepores. Near this we saw abundance of tufa; a decided evidence of the proximity of a thermal spring, which no doubt once flowed over these Cliffs.

THUNDER STORM.

While intent on examining this interesting section of the dale, we were startled by the increasing gloom and the wild aspect of the heavens above us, which dissipated our hopes of a fine day, for storm and tempest brooded over us.

We made our way hastily onward, not knowing how far we had yet to proceed before we could emerge from the solitary pass, where no place of shelter appeared, and soon arrived at the difficult part already alluded to, and so graphically described by the Author of the "Peak Scenery," who observes, after passing it, "I now looked back on the path I had passed, and trembled at my own temerity. Impending rock, to the height of several hundred feet, rose over my head, far beneath the narrow jutting crag, where I stood, flowed the Wye, which being dammed up at the Mill below, is here a deep, silent, and apparently an immoveable stream, that is black with shadow." This track takes up over an elevated portion of the Cliff, overhanging the deep stream. A thin slippery verdure covers this perilous path, but we passed it safely, though not without a feeling of danger. Finding the rain began to fall heavily, we looked up for shelter under the beetling rocks, and beheld a cleft with a projecting ledge of rock, canopied over by the towering crag above it. Here we soon seated ourselves, and not only obtained a resting point, but were rewarded by a magnificent view of the Dale above us, at the top of which appeared Litton Mill, partly shaded with trees, and the torrent of the sparkling Wye rushing over the "weir," close by it, the intervening space on our left covered with broken fragments toppled from the heights above, and brushwood and high mantling rocks bounded it. Far beneath our feet rushed the river, dark with the shadow of the mass of wood which covered the heights on the right bank. There did not appear from this wild spot the least chance for us of escape but by fording the stream; our position therefore was not the most enviable; and whilst marking down in my note-book some of these particulars, a brilliant flash of lightning crossed the pass, absolutely illuminating the silver pencil case, and

almost binding us with its sudden glare, and then broke immediately over head one of the most terrible peals of thunder we ever heard, shaking the solid rocks beneath us, and rolling and crashing from crag to crag, down the gloomy pass we had just quitted; scarcely had the hoarse echoes ceased to murmur when another flash and another roll of heaven's artillery succeeded, like tenfold thunders !- Need we say we felt awed by these manifestations of the Divine Power, but we knew we were in the hands of Him "who maketh the clouds his chariot, and walketh on the wings of the wind." How truly it is said in that sublime Psalm, "The voice of the Lord shaketh the wilderness." We had here a practical proof of its truth and awful sublimity, and it would be well if these impressive exhibitions of Almighty power-these solemn traces of His footsteps, were permanently fixed in our hearts, and led us rightly to adore Him for our good always! In reference to this, the enlightened reader will scarcely fail to remember, as we did, a magnificent passage which occurs in Lord Byron's "Childe Harolde," descriptive of a thunder storm amongst the mighty Alps, which not inaptly applies to the wonderful scene we witnessed, but language fails to convey an accurate idea of the grandeur of such a storm amidst such solitudes:

After each crash small fragments of the crag above came trundling down as if about to be crushed by the shock, which did not render our position the more agreeable, especially as the dancing rain fell in torrents, and we were quite land and water locked. Here we sat for more than an hour, till the rain rather abated, and then made our way up to Litton Mill, the worthy proprietor of which, seeing our position, sent a man into the stream with a long plank, and thus ferried us over from one rude block to another without our getting much wet, the principal part of the

* Ps. civ. 3. + Ps. xxix. 8. ‡ Byron's Life, by T. Moore, vol. viii. p. 174. Canto III. stream being sent down the goat of the Mill. We have reason to speak well of this gentleman, who took us in and gave us refreshment, and whom we found to be the son of Mr. Newton, the "Peak Minstrel," of Miss Seward, the talented Poetess of Lichfield. But having extended our remarks to far greater length than intended, we must close them, and bid adieu to the reader for the present, as we were obliged to do to our hospitable entertainer.

CONCLUDING REMARKS.

And this was "St. Swithun," and although we are not believers, according to the vulgar notion in the watery saint, yet we know that at the season of the summer solstice the electricities are determined for a long period, which influence our atmosphere for foul or fine weather, and we felt convinced it would be a wet summer, and so it turned out.

The roads down the Dales are much improved, and the drive is tolerable, and should be taken rather than omit such scenery; but for equestrians it is an easy and splendid ride.

PEDESTRIAN TOUR TO AXE EDGE.

To those who delight in scaling the mountain peak, and luxuriate in beholding an almost boundless prospect, the summit of this lofty hill will afford a rich treat.-From its top may be seen on a clear day the mountains of North Wales, and the light-house (with a good glass) beyond Liverpool, fifty miles distant. The lower and beautifully wooded vales, and fine undulating eminences of the saliferous formation, which range over an immense intervening portion, seem to be laid out at the spectator's feet; including a great part of the counties of Stafford, Cheshire, and Lancashire, lying to the west and north, and to the east the bleak Derbyshire peaks appear. From its giant base proceeds four Rivers—the Dove, the Wye, the Dane, and the Govte. The two former track their way and fall into the eastern estuary, or Humber; and the latter into the western, or Mersey. Its elevation is about nineteen hundred feet above the level of the sea. It is nearly three miles west of Buxton.

During the summer of 1842, a party of Royal Sappers and Miners were stationed here, making observations on the surrounding country, and laying down the great lines and most important points for the Government or Ordnance Map. While they were here, parties were stationed on the

top of Lincoln Cathedral; a high hill in Nottinghamshire; and also on Snowdon, in Wales, with powerful reflectors, all which points could be distinctly seen in clear weather, although Snowdon is ninety miles distant. The mound or beacon which they threw up still stands.

TOUR TO DOVEDALE, ASHBOURNE, AND ALTON TOWERS.

We need hardly observe, that Dovedale (seventeen miles) affords an interesting tour to the visitor at Buxton, who may enter the Dale from the north, by descending into it a few miles from Newhaven, at Hanson Grange, proceed down the Dale, and then to Ilam Hall, where the carriage may be ordered to meet the party. See Tour to Dovedale, where this Dale is amply treated of. Also a visit to Beresford Hall, and to Ashbourne, will afford some pleasure.

ALTON TOWERS.

Another most delightful and interesting drive may be taken to view the splendid Gardens of Alton Towers, and the Abbey itself. The nearest way is through Leek, twelve miles from Buxton, and then eleven miles will take a party to Orrell's (the Shrewsbury Arms), at Farley, of whom only tickets may be had to see the house and grounds. We beg to refer to our tour to Alton for an account.

EXCURSION TO LONGNOR, DOVE VALLEY, AND DOVE HEAD.

We had often heard parties remark in Buxton, on the fine scenery existing in the upper Valley of the Dove, especially in the neighbourhood of Crowdy-court (Crothcote), and Hollingsclough, and as it was a point we had never visited, we felt it our duty to do so. On pursuing the Ashbourne road for upwards of four miles, we took the right hand near the toll-bar, and presently passed under the High Peak Railway (called Mount Sorrow). Beyond this, a road leads to Church Sterndale, but ours led down through a rocky chasm, and we soon reached Glutton bridge and bar, above which we had a sweet view of the Dove Valley. On our left appeared the lofty hill called Sugar-loaf, and a multitude of others in the distance, as far as the eye could reach. Above, on our right, appeared two remarkable hills, (one not unlike Arthur's Seat, Edinburgh), which seemed to have been upheaved with immense force.

These two hills occupy the Derbyshire side, in a line parallel to each other, and are very steep on all sides, and rocky. On approaching them by an irregular roadway, we found them divided by a deep chasm, within which, with the adjoining hills, there appeared almost a complete circle, a quarter of a mile in diameter, shut in on all sides except this one, as if it had been originally a "crater" of a volcanic district that had burst its side. A beautiful streamlet passes through this opening. Within the circle is Dower, the residence of Mr. Marsden, a gentleman who takes a considerable interest in the geological character of this district. The names of Croome and Parker designate these two lofty and craggy hills. The former we ascended on a subsequent visit, and found near the top, at the extreme north end, a very fine chalybeate spring, and were surprised that such a spring could originate on the limestone. The enigma, however, was soon solved, by examining the hill to the eastward, on the top of which there was a slight capping of shale. On the top of the ridge exists a natural arch of the limestone, the under surface of which had been scooped out like a bell, very similar to those in the Peak Cavern, Castleton; no doubt caused by the fury of the elements sweeping through the opening, exposed as it is at such an elevation, not less, perhaps, than one thousand four hundred feet above the sea level. Our ascent was not without difficulty, but the views on all sides are splendid, particularly of the Dove Valley. Up as far as the extreme north-west end of this hill, the limestone occupied the east side of the Valley, the grit being on the opposite or Staffordshire side, but at the point we speak of, the grit commences and forms a part, we should say, of the gigantic base of Axe Edge, and about two miles above this point originates the River Dove, called Dove Head.

From Glutton Bridge, parties in carriages may proceed up over the gritstone ridge which bounds the west side of the valley to Longnor, a small town very prettily situated, and thence down again across the valley to Crowdycourt and the Mill, where some beautiful fossils are to be obtained of the miller there. The goniatites occurs in the neighbourhood in the greatest perfection. We ascended the steep hill on our way to Moneyash. But Buxton parties visiting this lovely valley may go home by Church Sterndale, or by proceeding onward about a mile further than the turn to this place, the Ashbourne road may be reached, and so home by that route.

A drive to "Dove Head," over the gigantic side of Axe Edge, and so on to Flash, is very interesting. The multitude of peaks seen to the south-east and west give the best idea of the general structure and wild character of the High Peak. Dove Head is a spring issuing out of the hill in a field close by some cottages about four miles from Buxton.

Two miles below this it is a powerful stream.

Anxious to explore the valley, a friend proceeded with me early one morning from Buxton on foot, and after examining Dove Head, we proceeded to the small Inn at Flash for breakfast, and had no reason to complain of the fare and the obliging attention of our hostess. A hill opposite to this, we were informed, commanded the most beautiful and extensive views, but it being a misty morning, we were obliged to forego the pleasure of visiting it. Time and space forbids our enlarging here; suffice it to say, we made our way by the nearest route into Dove Valley, and entered it at the point where a rather powerful tributary joins the Dove, close by a group of solitary cottages (one in ruins), which, with the rustic stone bridge leading to them, and the wild scenery about them, made us fancy ourselves far from the haunts of civilized men. We made our way down by the clear stream as best we could, and ascended Croome hill as already named in our notice of this spot, then by Crothcote and Ashlyhay wharf, and home by the High Peak Railway to Matlock.

DRIVE TO LYME HALL.

Another day may be spent in proceeding to view the ancient seat of the time-ennobled family of Legh, which is full of interesting remains of the past, carrying the mind back hundreds of years, and enabling it almost to picture to itself the lives and doings of perhaps not less than fifteen generations. But as we have not seen this fine old Hall, we cannot speak so particularly of it as we could wish, and we shall consequently give a passage or two before we conclude, from an interesting little work on the Scenery of Derbyshire, lately published.

This is a remarkable ride, and affords a wonderful change of scenery, by the road winding over one of the loftiest hills in Derbyshire, and then descending rapidly into the rich vales of Cheshire and Lancashire, accompanied with a most commanding view of one of the richest and most populous districts perhaps in the world. Before descending the last 326 BUXTON.

steps of the millstone grit just beyond Disley, and near the turn to Lyme Hall, this view is obtained, and appears almost boundless, except to the east, which is bounded by the great "English Appennine;" but to the north and west the only boundary line appears to be the blue heavens, comprehending a magnificent view of a beautiful champaign country, stretching towards Lancaster, fifty or sixty miles distant, to the north, and far beyond Liverpool, to the sea, westward.—

But we anticipate.

The road from Buxton to Manchester leads over the lowest point of Combe's Moss, the top of which towers to our right, and the lofty summit of Axe Edge may be seen on our left, up which the Macclesfield road winds. At the top of the long road (as it is called), nearly two miles from Buxton, we attain an elevation of seventeen hundred feet above the level of the sea. Here scarcely any thing but bleak moors meet the eye of the spectator. - Goyte Moss, that bounds the valley of that name, is most conspicuous. From hence there is a delightful run down the inclined plane of the valley of the Goyte, for full five miles, till reaching Whaley Bridge, where, on passing the stream, we enter Cheshire, and leave the bleak and dark heathy hills for the rich plains already noticed. The transition is striking, and deeply interesting. The whole valley forward on the right appears filled with cotton, dying, and bleaching mills; and here too commences the immense Manchester Coal field.

The ride to Disley (four miles further) is very pretty. The elegant Church of New Mills is seen to the right before reaching this place, and the road is excellent. We were charmed with the situation of Disley and its beautiful lake, ancient church, and sweet scenery. Here good accommodation may be obtained for parties at the New Inn. The distance to Lyme Hall from hence is about a mile and a half. The situation of Lyme Hall from the Manchester road appears dreary, and the park, which is stocked with red deer, is more like an uncultivated waste; but admitting the testimony of those who have visited Lyme, the house is a noble structure, and the materials with which it is stored are of the deepest interest, which will well repay the visitor for the distance he has come. The building is quadrangular, and handsome: the stone used in its erection is a white coloured gritstone, no doubt originally obtained from quarries in the neighbourhood: it is "ornamented with colossal and other figures of the same material; and, whether taken for the beauty of its architecture, or its general noble and majestic appearance, it cannot fail to excite admiration in the mind of the beholder. The more ancient part was built about the latter end of the reign of Elizabeth. south and west fronts are of the Ionic order, from a design by Leoni. A spacious terrace neatly flagged, guarded by immense iron railings, with gates, and a porter's lodge, indicate the principal entrance or archway leading into the inner square or court yard. Here we obeyed the order to 'ring,' and a very respectable middle-aged female soon made her appearance, and led us across the square, up a flight of steps, to the Great Hall, which we found well lined with paintings by ancient and modern artists, and adorned with curious specimens of armour, amongst which is part of that worn by Sir Perkin Legh at the famous battle of Cressy, A. D. 1346; for his valour on which occasion Edward the Third knighted him, and gave him this estate. The most curious object is a full length picture of the Black Prince in complete armour. There are also two of the said Sir Perkin Legh; one in his armour, the other in a Court dress. The more modern are those of Colonel and the present Mr. Legh.

"The Drawing-Room is exceedingly handsome; the rich and antique carved work of the sides, mantel-piece, and ceiling—the drapery and furniture, both bespeaking by-gone days—are well adapted to the whole; the windows are of richly stained glass, in which, amongst other devices, are represented the Knights of the Garter of Henry the Eighth; all these combined to give a mystic splendour to the scene

not easily described.

"In one of the chambers the walls are lined with ancient tapestry, still very fresh and perfect. The subject is Leander and Hero. One side of this room represents the former swimming across the Hellespont to pay his devotions to the latter. Another, where he has fallen a victim to his romantic attachment.—Cupid, from a rock near, appears to be mourning over his hapless fate. The broken bow and quiver are beautifully conceived emblems of despair. The other sides pourtray the rest of this historical fable.

"In another room is a most singular article of antique furniture—a very curiously carved four-post bed, said to be that in which the Black Prince slept during his stay at 328

Lyme; which, reckoning only from the death of that brave Plantagenet, would make it somewhere about four hundred and sixty-eight years old!—yet it appears as free from decay as when turned out of the joiner's hands; and, being kept

bright, strongly resembles ebony.

"The Picture Gallery contains a variety of subjects, some of which are from the Heathen Mythology. The Library, Music Room, &c., are all worthy of the stranger's attention.—The Servants' Hall contains a full length likeness of the old huntsman, an extraordinary son of Nimrod, who lived to a great age, and could boast of having 'gone out' with five generations of the Legh family."*

Parties might take the opportunity of seeing Lyme Hall, on their way to the north, if time permitted; but the drive

back will be found exceedingly interesting.

DRIVE TO CASTLETON.

The road to Castleton is decidedly one of the most dreary in the Peak of Derbyshire, and more like what the Peak originally was than any other part. A few white cottages sprinkled here and there in the valleys or on the side of the steep barren hills, with the rude inhospitable looking village of Sparrow Pit, is almost all that occurs to relieve the dreary monotony, till we arrive at the foot of Mam Tor, where the lovely Vale of Hope bursts upon the view in its beauty and loveliness. But who would not take it after all for a change? And, besides, the interest thrown around the Ebbing and Flowing Well on the way, and the wonders of the Peak at Castleton, amply make up for any deficiency in the scenery. We shall therefore hasten over it, as the traveller generally wishes to do, simply observing that he takes through Fairfield, where the left hand road is to be taken; then, on arriving at the toll-bar (five miles from Buxton) at Barmoor Clough, (where we get into the "Chapel road"), turn to the right, and on preceeding about a quarter of a mile, we find the

EBBING AND FLOWING WELL.

This extraordinary Well (one of the wonders of the Peak) appears to be used as a watering-place for cattle, and is a small pool. The side next the hill forms the segment of a circle, defended by a wall, beneath which there are nine

[&]quot; "Letters from Home. 1

apertures, about equidistant one from another, out of which the water flows when it is in action. These openings are protected from the cattle by stone ledges, flowing over which the water must have a singular effect. It has its origin in the limestone, and is situated at the foot of a steep hill, close by the turnpike road. It is an intermittent spring, the frequency of its action depending upon the quantity of rain which falls; so that in dry weather the stranger may wait, as we have done, in vain for the manifestation of this wonderful phenomenon, but in very wet seasons it will ebb and flow sometimes twice in an hour. The action, when it first commences, is scarcely perceivable, but before the expiration of a minute the water issues with considerable force from the nine small apertures on the south and west sides. It continues to flow about five minutes; and in this space of time it is supposed to throw out a hundred and twenty hogsheads of water. The greatest part of the water runs off under the road, and part lapses back again, and the Well speedily re-

sumes its original quiet appearance.

The "modus operandi" of this spring can be accounted for on the principle of a siphon; a beautiful illustration of which may be exhibited by the "Tantalus cup," thousands of which have been imported into this country from China within the last twenty years, and are now so common, that any particular description of it would be almost superfluous.* A basin of water in the adjoining eminence, supplied by infiltration with water from the surrounding districts, and connected with a narrow channel or duct on the same principle, and proportionate to the extent of the

mass of water, would produce the same effect.

^{*} This cup is about the size of a common coffee cup, with a grotesque Chinese figure (hollow) fixed in the centre; inside of which is a small hollow tube, extending more than midway up the figure. A small hole at the bottom of the figure communicates with the tube; therefore the moment the cup is filled with water so as to reach the top of the tube inside the figure, the superior pressure of the atmosphere on the greater extent of water surface in the cup expels the air from the tube; and the water flows rapidly through it till the whole is nearly exhausted, by entering the figure, when the equilibrium is restored and the action ceases. We have only to imagine such a phenomenon, or something similar, to take place in the case of this well, and the whole is explained. There can be no difficulty about the reflux of the water after its full flow, as that may be accounted for by supposing the existence of many other channels connected with the well, through which the water would pass after its action ceased.

GENERAL DIRECTIONS TO EDLON HOLE.

Still pursuing the Tideswell road by Sparrow Pit, about two miles further, we come to Peak Forest, and the New Inn (Mr. Worthing's), where the worthy host will point out the very position of Eldon Hole, and give every necessary particular to parties wishing to visit it; but we should observe that the carriage can be taken through the village to the end of a lane leading to it, where the remainder of the distance must be walked, and the carriage should be ordered round by Perry-Foot to proceed on the Castleton road about a mile, near a small gate, and wait the arrival of the party, who can come over the hill from Eldon Hole, and so down the mountain-path by Slittergate mine into the Castleton road within view of it.—See the Castleton account for directions from thence, in our tour from thence to Buxton.

ELDON HOLE.

In Peak Forest, is situated this remarkable chasm, another wonder of the Peak-and if the legends of the past speak true, decidedly the most wonderful of all, as it has been the subject of many a fearful tale, and furnished ample food for the "gossip" of many a long winter's night, till perhaps the knees of the party "smote together" for very dread, and their breasts heaved in silent emotion-such is the effect of ignorance, truly said to be the mother of superstition. Men have been supposed to be murdered and burled down this fearful pit; and like the gulf of the Speedwell Mine, it has been considered unfathomable, and for any thing the "Idealists" knew, it might have been an opening direct to the centre of the earth, or to the antipodes. In the days of our good "Queen Bess," it was a matter of such notoriety, that the Earl of Leicester had a man let down into it, who, when drawn up again (it is said), was speechless, and shortly afterwards died,* which gave a considerable dash to the marvellous. Catcot has noticed it at some length in his treatise on the Deluge, and instanced it as a proof of his theory. It has been also honoured by a particular notice in the Philosophical Transactions, (vol. 61, page 250) furnished by Mr. John Lloyd, F.R.S., who descended into it in 1770, and somewhat dissipated the mists and thick darkness which

^{*} This event forms an amusing episode in Hobbes's Latin Poem, De Mirabilibus Pecci. Cotton, the natural Poet of the Peak, has given an elaborate account of this place.

enveloped it, by giving a clear and minute description of its interior; so that the poet Cotton's eight hundred ells, and the celebrated Hobbes's two hundred, were reduced to about seventy-six yards. In fact, it is nothing more than a natural cavern with a perpendicular opening, which renders it difficult of access, hundreds of which exist in the limestone, and many much more spacious. The opening at the top ranges north-west and south-east, and is about ten yards wide and thirty long, but diminishes considerably towards the bottom. The interior of this cavern Mr. Lloyd describes as consisting of two parts, one like an oven, the other like the dome of a glass-house, communicating with each other by a small arched passage; besides these there are many other openings and passages. Several have descended into it since Mr. Lloyd, but as there is nothing in the description to interest the general reader, we shall quit Eldon Hole, and proceed onwards to Perry-foot, which we reached on the descent of the hill, about a mile from Sparrow pit. Anxious to see the spot where the water drained into the centre of the vast natural basin, here enclosed on all sides with lofty mountains, we turned down through a gate on the left, and observed a lofty rugged cliff, over which the road passed, and under which the streamlet dashed into the fissures and caverns beneath it. The water passes into the Speedwell mine, and again emerges to day at Castleton. us this was an object of the greatest interest. From hence we soon reached Mam Tor, and the Winnats, to Castleton, which decidedly forms one of the greatest attractions in Derbyshire. And the approach to it by this route is most imposing; at one time you find yourself enclosed as in a perfect wilderness by the loftiest eminences of the Peak, and in another descending by the foot of the noble Mam Tor, or Shivering Mountain, into one of the loveliest valleys in England-itself rendered the more beautiful by the bleak and lofty districts which enclose it on all sides. But as we wish to retrace our steps according to our original plan, we will just simply notice the pretty village of Fairfield, and its Church, which have been hitherto overlooked, although within half a mile of Buxton. Its church-yard seems to have been the principal burial ground of the people of Buxton for a long period. The church forms an interesting object in the land-

Parties not visiting Eldon Hole, must leave the "Chapel" Road, at Sparrow Pit, and proceed on by Perry-foot to Castleton.

scape, and the village contains some comfortable lodging houses for company. Besides the Church at Buxton, there is a Methodist and an Independent Chapel.

NATURAL ADVANTAGES OF BUXTON, CONCLUDING NOTICE.

To conclude our notice of Buxton: an author, remarking on its advantages, observes, that "to the mineralogist it offers many a rare and beautiful fossil; but to the botanist it is a source of incalculable delight; for there is scarcely a plant indigenous in Britain which may not be found on the mountains or in the valleys in its neighbourhood. To the angler the pellucid waters of the Wye and Dove furnish the beautiful finny tribes of trout and grayling, so celebrated by Cotton and Walton. To the sportsman, during the shooting season, the extensive Moors belonging to the Duke of Devonshire and the Earl of Derby, abounding with grouse, partridges, snipe, dotterel, plover, &c., have their attraction."

We shall now proceed to take up our line, and track our way through Middleton Dale, Eyam, &c., to Castleton, all which are still in the vicinity of Buxton, and within a day's

drive.

EXCURSION TO CASTLETON FROM MATLOCK,

BY CHATSWORTH AND EDENSOR, BASLOW, CALVER, MIDDLETON
DALE AND EYAM.

CHAPTER III.

BASLOW, INNS, ETC., REMARKS ON THE GRITSTONE, CALVER, STOKE HALL, HATHERSAGE, STONEY MIDDLETON, VERY FINE ROCKS, MIDDLETON DALE, CHARACTER OF DITTO, EYAM, VIEW INTO HOPE DALE, CASTLETON, THE SCENERY, HISTORY OF THE CASTLE, PEAK CAVERN, SPEEDWELL MINE, BLUE JOHN MINE, WINNATS, MAM TOR, MUSEUM, CAVE DALE, BASALTIC PILLAR, BRADWELL CAVERN, RETURN TO MATLOCK, ETC. ETC.

The first time the author took this interesting trip from Matlock, was in the pleasant month of May, accompanied by a friend, whose object was to sketch from the magnificent scenery in the neighbourhood of Castleton, while the author's was to examine and explore the dark mines of Tray-Cliff, in

search of the beautiful Blue John, or Fluor Spar. We were off very early, as our object was to return the same evening, and still to enjoy a long day in the High Peak. The morning, fortunately, was exceedingly propitious, and therefore with a light heart and buoyant hope of experiencing a day of much enjoyment, we started a quarter before five. As the line of route has been fully given already, we shall beg to refer the reader to our remarks on the peculiar appearance of the gritstone crags, where he will find himself brought to the top of the fine eminence about a quarter of a mile above Edensor Inn, and a mile above Chatsworth, after passing through the Park.* On attaining this point, we took the right hand road down by the plantation and a farm, and on proceeding about amile and a half we arrived at

BASLOW,

joining the Bakewell road to Sheffield, a little before we entered it. The village is beautifully situated on the meadows skirting each side of the Derwent, over which a good substantial bridge is built. The Church stands close by the brink of the stream, and forms a fine feature with the bridge in this quiet village scene.† Here are two very good Inns, the Wheat Sheaf (Mr. Ingleby), and the Peacock (Mr. Broomhead), where parties may be very well entertained on their way to Chesterfield or Sheffield; and not being very far from Chatsworth, especially from the gardens, many parties, from both those towns, make excursions and regale themselves here. Good bowling-greens are connected with both the Inns.

At the east-end of the village, near the Chesterfield-road, is the principal entrance to Chatsworth, where two handsome

the Peak early in the morning, then to Buxton, take a peep at Eldon Hole and the Ebbing and Flowing Well in their way.

+ At this place the Duke of Rutland used to stay about a week during the season of Grouse shooting—the Moors belonging to his Grace extending over a great part of the hills above and along the Sheffield road. On this road, at the top of the Moors, is Longshaw, the present favourite

shooting-box of his Grace.

^{*} Having given directions how to proceed from Buxton to Castleton, we prefer this line to commence with, because by far the greater number of Buxton visitors come from the South, and often wish, especially if pressed for time, to take Castleton first. I would recommend such parties to see Haddon early, then Chatsworth, and get to Castleton for dinner; where they can remain all night if they wish; view the Wonders of the Peak early in the morning, then to Buxton, take a peep at Eldon Hole and the Ebbing and Flowing Well in their way.

Lodges are built; and near by is an elegant Italian Villa (Park Lodge), recently finished, the residence of Doctor Condell.

As we were proceeding to Castleton, on passing through the toll-bar, awkwardly situated at the foot of the bridge, we took a sharp turn to the left; the other road leads to Sheffield. The drive to Calver Mill is fine; the country is open, and the road follows the course of the stream. The opposite bank is bold and beautifully wooded, and spread out in rich pastures: one or two good farm-houses, some neat whitewashed cottages, and the Old Hall of Bubnell, give to it an appearance of animation and beauty. Part of the Hall is converted into a Ladies' Boarding School (Miss Wilkinson's), and another part is a farm-house. The Chapel connected with this is still entire.

About midway between Baslow and Calver the effects of the weather on the alternating beds of the gritstone and shale are distinctly seen, where these measures have been cut down about thirty feet to make the road, which shall be noticed in our remarks on Mam Tor. The hard angular masses of the grit protruding from between the soft shale, have a singular appearance, and every now and then are toppled down by the destruction of the shale beds beneath them. We now soon reached the Cotton Mill, where we crossed the Derwent to Calver, which lies to the left of the road, almost surrounded with lime-kilns, which both here and at Middleton give employment to a great number of the poor population.* Shortly after this, on passing the turnpike, we came to the cross roads, one leading to the right, by Stoke Hall and Hathersage.

On proceeding to Castleton, by Hathersage, the road skirts the beautiful stream of the Derwent, and passes through a narrow glen of great beauty. The grounds of Stoke Hall form a fine feature on this line; and the Hall itself, though not large or imposing, is an elegant object, and may be considered one of the most delightful residences in the North of Derbyshire. It stands on a fine eminence, to the right, on the very brink of the stream, which, enriched with wood, shrub, and flower, and graced with summerhouses, statues, and walks, may be said to be eminently beautiful. Beyond Stoke, turning up a short but steep hill,

^{*} A road through Calver leads to Hassop, and to the seat of Lord Newburgh.

we passed a small Hamlet (Grindleford Bridge, where a road turns off to Sheffield), then a quarry of the gritstone, where a fine section of this measure is laid open, dipping to the South. Here the Birch tree, Scotch fir, and the underwood or copse, are most luxuriant and rich, ornamenting the stream, which is dark with shadow, and majestically flowing. The lofty and frowning crags of Booth Edge, seen towering to the right, are most imposing amongst so much sylvan and romantic beauty. A Lead Mill is passed a little beyond this, then over the bridge to Hathersage, situated at the foot of the moors, near the extreme end of Hope Dale.—The Church is considerably above, on the right of the road. This place is celebrated for its manufacture of fine needles. Here we joined the Sheffield road, which passes up the Vale to Hope and Castleton.

It is about two miles round by Hathersage, and of course omits the rocky scenery of Middleton Dale; but having traversed it, we think it right to point out the fine scenery

and the way, and now return to the

MIDDLETON route. From the cross roads Middleton appeared, romantically situated at the entrance of the narrow Dale about half a mile a-head of us. On just entering this village, situated on the meadows, is the country residence of Lord Chief Justice Denman, who has altered and improved the road, and otherwise beautified this part very much of late years, and his lordship has also very liberally fitted up in a handsome style some baths in the village, on the site of an old one, supposed to have been originally established by the Romans, when they occupied a station at Brough.* The village is a rude one, but the Dale beyond is imposing and grand.

MIDDLETON DALE.

We arrived here about half-past seven, just in time to see it to the best advantage. The Dale is narrow: the left is bounded by a lofty range, and rutted almost the entire way by lime-kilus. A powerful stream runs through the Dale,

^{*}On passing through Middleton in the spring of 1843, we were glad to learn that his Lordship had purchased all the rocky side of the Dale, together with the land above it, stretching as far up as Eyam, in order to improve the scenery and extend his park, but especially to prevent the lime burners from quarrying and breaking up the fine rocks on that side, which they had begun to do;—we are delighted at this; and also to see that a few trees had been judiciously planted on the rocks.

generally discoloured by the refuse from the kilns, which destroys its beauty. But the right of the Dale is magnificent—bold, projecting, and perpendicular masses of limestone, rising majestically to a great height, seem to overhang the road and also some of the houses—their noble forms so rounded off, and their faces so fretted away by the action of the elements from age to age, that it may not be too much to say, some of them might be mistaken for the ruins of old castles. One at the entrance of the Dale is particularly striking, called the Lover's Leap. From the summit of this fearful precipice, about the year 1760, a love-stricken damsel of the name of Baddeley, threw herself down, and strange as it may appear, she sustained but little injury; however, it had a salutary effect on her mind, and she became serious, and lived much respected for many years afterwards.

CHARACTER OF THE DALE.

Our time of passing through the Dale seemed to be particularly happy for seeing it to advantage. The Sun, which had long risen with unusual splendour, appeared, buried as we were in the narrow Dale, just emerging above the lofty crags, and seemed quickly to dissipate the misty veil, which still in cloudy patches lingered over the tops, and mantled the faces of the majestic rocks. From the small Inn at the extreme end of the village, where the Lover's Leap towers loftily, the whole range nearly forms one vast perpendicular rampart, till reaching the chasm or dell, leading up to Eyam, but beyond this, the rocky masses are detached and interspersed with beautiful verdant brakes. The light streaming down these, the crags somewhat cast into shadow, fringed with the brushwood, and the white fleecy clouds rolling above them, had a magical, or, to say the least, a beautiful effect. Reaching the top of the Dale, and emerging from it, by ascending a steep hill through a plantation, the scene was instantly changed from one of almost overpowering grandeur to that of sterility and universal bleakness: nothing appearing in the wide circuit of many square miles but barren mountains, with the slightest sprinkling of vegetation. The road is on the descent, and we rapidly passed to Wardlow Mires and the toll-gate, then to Tideswell Lane Head. Tideswell is seen to the left at this point. Taking the narrow lane by the public-house, we proceeded to Castleton.

EYAM.

The line we have just mentioned is the best, but as parties may wish to visit Eyam, we must retrace our steps, and take them up the rocky Dell or Eyam Dale to the right, half a mile up Middleton Dale. The ascent is exceedingly steep, but at the top, the interesting village of Eyam is romantically situated, where that good and excellent man, the Rev. W. Mompesson, exhibited all the cardinal virtues of the Christian faith during the existence of that "pestilence that walketh in darkness," the plague, which desolated this sequestered village in 1666. This scourge of mankind is supposed to have been introduced into Eyam in a box of clothes* from London, at the time the plague raged there. The party who opened the box was the first victim. This was the only country place attacked by the plague; it raged with such violence for upwards of two months, that out of a population of about three hundred and thirty, two hundred and fiftynine were carried off, Thus four-fifths of the inhabitants were swept away by it. Graves were dug in the adjoining field to bury the dead. The Riley gravestones, seen in a field about half a mile out of the village, are existing memorials of its ravages. They record the death of seven out of eight of a family of that name-one only being left to tell the tale of woe concerning their house. During its existence, the good Mompesson collected his little trembling flock, to avoid contagion, in a deep rocky dell (Cucklet), a little way out of the village, to minister to them the consolations of the Gospel, which alone could "heal the broken in heart and strengthen the feeble knees" of the wretched inhabitants. An arched rock in this dell is called Cucklet Church, from the fact of the service being performed under it.

The Church in the village is an interesting structure, and the Cross is a fine old relic of ancient times, said to be of Saxon origin; the back and front of which is rudely sculptured with some symbolic representations, and the sides are adorned with "curiously involved knots, which some antiquarians have denominated Runic or Scandinavian." There are some good houses in the village. The Parsonage House was built by the Rev. Mr. Seward, the father of the late

poetess of Lichfield.

^{*} Some say it was conveyed in a tailor's patterns of cloth,

Leaving Eyam, we found the country open, barren, and extremely uninviting. A short ride brought us to Foolow, then by uneven and rutty lanes we passed on to the Windmill, and, taking down a rugged steep, we fell into the road from Tideswell to Castleton, not more than about three miles and a half distant from hence—but the road is not good, still it may be travelled over with perfect safety. Nothing but stone walls, mine hillocks, and a few scattered cottages of the miners and small farmers, appear along this dreary tract, until reaching the brow of the lofty eminence just above Castleton.

VIEW OF HOPE DALE.

Here a prospect of no ordinary kind bursts upon the view .- The bold outlines and massive forms of Mam Tor, Win Hill, and Loose Hill, had been gradually unfolded before the eye for some time previous, but now the beautiful Vale of Hope, well wooded, and watered by many a streamlet-the Village and the Spire of the Church occupying a central position, embosomed amongst these gigantic hills-appeared in all their rural and simple loveliness; the sun pouring a flood of light over the rich pastures and gentle knolls, while broad masses of light and shade lay here and there, in bold relief, in the mountain brakes, and on the projecting angles of the surrounding hills, which here, from their very bleakness, have an awful and imposing effect on the mind, that is much enhanced by the fertility, richness, and beauty of the Vale. The road now rapidly descends; indeed, it is so steep that most parties prefer walking down it. On turning the angle, Castleton is seen below, in a nook of the The Church, with its square tower, is a good Valley. object.

We now soon entered the village, and put up at the Castle Inn and Posting House, the property of — Hall, Esq., where there is every accomodation for the visitor. There is also another very excellent Inn and Posting House, the Nag's Head, (Mr. Royce), where parties may be well accommodated, and will find the most ready and obliging attention.

CASTLETON—OBSERVATIONS ON ITS PECULIAR POSITION AND IMPRESSIVE SCENERY.

This place is of the deepest interest, not only from the lofty eminences by which it is environed, or the beautiful

vale in which it is situated, but also from the natural caverns, extraordinary fissures, and mines, with which its neighbourhood abounds. The Odin Mine, situated at the foot of Mam Tor, as its name imports, is (as a mine) of the greatest antiquity; and the Peak Cavern, Speedwell Level, and Blue John Mine, are equalled by none in the three kingdoms, and fall little short in interest of any in existence. Hence this village has been resorted to by thousands in this country in their excursions of pleasure, and the foreigner seldom fails to take it in his way, during his tour through England. The fame of Castleton, and the "Wonders of the Peak," so strikingly associated with it, have been trumpeted far and wide, and consequently it imposes no ordinary task on the tourist who attempts to describe it. The author can well remember the powerful impression a visit to this place early in life made upon himself, although accustomed to mountains of greater magnitude than those of Castleton, and rocks of greater elevation. There is such a combination in its natural scenery, and such a peculiar character in its caverns, that render it at all times powerfully impressive. The local associations connected with its Castle, round which Sir Walter Scott has thrown a superlative charm—the reminiscences of its ancient history which flash upon the mind, when the Roman legions traversed its valley, and the servants or serfs of the Empire worked its mines, tend greatly to enhance the interest, and to enchain the spirit, as if spell-bound, as we examine its different objects. The consequence of this is, that Castleton has been noticed by a host of writers, so that it is difficult to say any thing without treading closely in the footsteps of some one of them.

HISTORY OF THE CASTLE.

The first object we had in view was to sketch and examine the Castle, that romantic ruin which spreads itself on the summit of the rock, and stands, sentinel-like, over the village of Castleton. The ascent to it is exceedingly steep and rather difficult.

The elevated situation of the castle of the Peverils, the remains of which give a picturesque grandeur to the place, and the almost perpendicular chasms that nearly insulate the eminence which it occupies, must, prior to the invention of gunpowder, have rendered it almost impregnable. The east and south sides are bounded by a narrow ravine, called

Cave Dale,* which ranges between two vast limestone rocks, and on the east is nearly two hundred feet in depth. On the west it is skirted by the precipice which frowns over the great cavern, and rears its abrupt head to the height of two hundred and sixty feet. The north side is the most accessible, yet even here the path has been carried in a winding

direction to obviate the steepness of the ascent.

The Castle-yard, an enclosed area, is extended almost over the whole summit of the eminence. The wall is nearly in ruins to the level of the area; though, in some few places of the outside, it measures twenty feet high. On the north side were two small towers, now destroyed. The entrance was at the north-east corner, as appears by part of an archway yet remaining. Near the north-west angle is the Keep. The walls of this building on the south and west sides, are pretty entire, and, at the north-west corner, are fifty-five feet high; but the north and east sides are much shattered. On the outside it forms a square of thirty-eight feet two inches; but on the inside it is not equal, being from north to south twenty-one feet four inches; from east to west nineteen feet three inches. This difference arises from an inequality in the thickness of the walls, which are composed of broken masses of limestone, and mortar of such an excellent temper. that it binds the whole together like a rock: the facings, both outside and inside, are of hewn gritstone. In the wall within is a little herring-bone ornament.

The inside is a complete ruin; but anciently consisted of two rooms, one on the ground floor, and one above, over which the roof was raised with a gable-end to the north and south, but not of equal height with the outer walls. The ground floor was about fourteen feet high, the upper room about sixteen. The entrance to the former appears to have been through a doorway on the south side of the upper room, by a flight of steps, now wholly destroyed, but said to have existed within memory: the present entrance is through an opening made in the wall. At the south-east corner is a narrow winding staircase, communicating with the roof, but

in a ruinous condition. +

The antiquity of this castle is considerable. Mr. King, who has minutely described it in the sixth volume of the Archæologia, imagines it to have been a fortress, and place

[•] The "Cave," is a name given to the rocky entrance of this Dale. † Bray's Tour, &c.

of royal residence, in Saxon times; but other antiquaries suppose it to be an undoubted Norman structure, built by William Peveril, natural son of the Conqueror; to whom the traditions of the neighbourhood ascribe its erection. Its ancient appellation of Peveril's Place in the Peke countenances this opinion. Whichever is the truth, it is certain that Peveril possessed it at the time of the Doomsday Survey, by the name of the "Casile of Peke," with the honour and forest,

and thirteen other lordships in this county.

Mr. Pilkington, in his "View of Derbyshire," has given the following romantic particulars of a tournament held here:-" Pain Peveril (half brother to William), Lord of Whittington, in the county of Salop, had two daughters; one of whom, named Mellet, was no less distinguished by a martial spirit than her father. This appeared from the declaration she made respecting the choice of a husband. She firmly resolved to marry none but a knight of great prowess; and her father, to confirm her purpose, and to procure and encourage a number of visitors, invited all noble young men who were inclined to enter the lists, to meet at Peveril's Place in the Peke, and there decide their pretensions by the use of arms; declaring, at the same time, that whoever vanquished his competitors should receive his daughter, with his castle at Whittington, as a reward for his skill and valour. Guarine de Meez, a branch of the house of Lorraine, and an ancestor of the Lords Fitz-Warrine, hearing this report, repaired to the place above-mentioned, and there engaged with a son of the king of Scotland, and also with a baron of Burgoyne, and, vanquishing them both, obtained the prize for which he fought."

The Peverils did not enjoy their estates many generations; for William Peveril, grandson to the first possessor of this name, having poisoned Ranulph, Earl of Chester, was obliged to secure his safety by an ignominious flight; and his castles and other possessions were left at the king's disposal (Henry II.), who granted them to his son, John, Earl of Montaigne, who afterwards succeeded to the crown. In the sixth year of the reign of John, Hugh de Nevil was made governor of the Peak Castle; but within ten years afterwards it is said to have been taken from the barons, who united to oppose the tyranny of the monarch, by William de Ferrers, Earl of Derby. In the fourth of Edward II., John, Earl of Warren, obtained a grant of the castle and honour of Peak in Derby-

shire, with the whole forest of High Peak, in as ample manner as it was anciently enjoyed by the Peverils. In the forty-sixth of Edward III. the castle was granted to John of Gaunt, and, from that time, descended in the same manner as the Duchy of Lancaster. The proprietors, however, were always distinguished by the proud and baronial title of "Peverils of the Peak;" a name which served to mark their

proud descent and lofty pretensions.

It has been observed by Mr. Bray, that this castle, though almost impregnable, from its situation, was but ill adapted for any continued defence, as there is no appearance of any well or reservoir within its limits from which the garrison could be supplied with water. This remark, strictly confining it to the words in which it is expressed, is, perhaps, correct; yet it should be noticed, that, at no great distance from the keep, near the upper part of the Cave-Valley, there is a spring, which, by some contrivance, might have anciently conveyed water into the fortress. At present its waters sink between the clefts of the limestone, and fall in continued drops from the roof of the great cavern at the place appropriately named Roger Rain's House.

This castle was used for keeping the records of the miners' courts, till they were removed to Tutbury castle, in the time of Queen Elizabeth. The Duke of Devonshire has now the nominal appointment of the constable of the castle, and is lessee of the honour or manor and forest of the Peak, of which Castleton formed, till of late years, a part. Courts are now held for Castleton as a distinct Manor, extending

over many townships of the Peak.

The village of Castleton, which derives its name from this ancient stronghold, is situated near the bottom of the steep eminence at whose feet the famous cavern discloses itself, and whose summit is occupied by the ruins of the ancient castle of the Peverils. Near the entrance of the village a bridge has been thrown across the stream which issues from the cavern. The buildings are chiefly of stone. The support of the inhabitants is derived from the mining business, and from the expenditure of those who are induced to visit the remarkable places in the neighbourhood. A ditch and vallum formerly extended in a semi-circular course round the village, from the mountain on which the castle stands, and may yet be traced in particular directions.

THE PEAK CAVERN.

This magnificent Cavern is only about five minutes' walk from the Inn, and may be truly styled a "wonder," as it will fully bear out that title, should the other six be found to fail. We skirt the side of a clear and lovely stream on our way to it, which is seen to boil up from a chasm in the rock, about fifty yards from the entrance, and is the same which traverses the interior of the cavern. The approach is grand and truly imposing, the massive ramparts rising to a prodigious height The right hand part of the face of the rock on on each side. the left, is fringed with trees and shrubs. The hoarse scream of the jackdaws adds to the wild and savage character of the place, and the lofty and apparently critical position of the Castle perched on the top, and immediately over the arch on the left, considerably heightens the feeling. Approaching the mouth, the shrill cry of the cord-winders, and the busy hum of their numerous twisting-wheels, strike the ear with a hollow and unnatural sound, as if the interior were peopled by imaginary beings. The appearance of a rude cottage, and the upright posts under the opening, have a singular effect.*

An author observes, that a vast canopy of unpillared rock, assuming the appearance of a depressed arch, forms the mouth of this stupendous excavation. This arch is regular in its structure, and extends, in width, one hundred and twenty feet; in height, forty-two; and in receding depth, upwards of one hundred. Proceeding about thirty yards, the roof becomes lower, and a gentle descent conducts, by a detached rock, to the interior entrance of this tremendous cavern. Here the blaze of day, which has been gradually softening, wholly disappears, and all further passage must be explored by torchlight.†

The way now becomes low and confined, and the visitor is obliged to proceed in a stooping posture twenty or thirty yards, when an opening, called the Bell-house, from its form in the rocks above his head, again permits him to

+ Candles are now invariably used instead of torches; and the Bengal light is used with effect for all parties who will pay the extra charge of one shilling.

^{*}There is a pack-thread or twine manufactory under the opening. Here the parties have ample space to pursue their avocations without any obstructions from the weather. On the cottage the sun never shone, and the rain never fell.

stand upright. Hence the path conducts to the margin of a small lake, by an accumulation of sand, great quantities of which are deposited by the water that flows through the cave after heavy rains. The lake, locally termed the First Water, is about fourteen yards in length, but not more than two or three feet in depth. A small boat, provided by the guide, is ready to convey the passenger to the interior of the Cavern, beneath a massive vault of rock, which, in one part, descends to within eighteen or twenty inches of the water. But for parties who object to the boat a way has been blasted through the massive rock for their accommodation. "Here," says M. St. Fond, "we stood some time on the brink; and as the light of our dismal torches, which emitted a black smoke, reflected our pale images from the bottom of the lake, we almost conceived that we saw a troop of shades starting from an abyss to present themselves before us." This place, indeed, is extremely favourable to the wanderings of the imagination; and the mind, versed in classic lore, at once refers to the passage of the Styx in the fatal bark of Charon.

One feels an involuntary shudder steal over the frame at this point, for it seems as if we were really entering the regions of the Prince of Darkness, and here it strikingly answers to the name of the Devil's Cave; and here, too, in almost breathless anxiety, the stranger is obliged to lay himself down in the bottom of the rude boat, to be drawn beneath the rocky chasm. It is said that Byron felt the liveliest emotions while yet he remained the "unspoilt child of Nature," when crossing this dark pool with the object of his

first love, Miss Chaworth.

Beyond the lake, is a tremendous opening, two hundred and twenty feet in length, two hundred feet broad, and, in some parts, a hundred and twenty feet high, but, from the want of sufficient light, neither the distant sides nor the roof of this abyss can be clearly seen. In a passage at the inner extremity of this vast cavern, the stream which flows through the bottom spreads into what is called the Second Water; but this can generally be passed on foot; at other times the assistance of the guide is requisite. Near the termination of this passage is a projecting pile of rocks, distinguished by the name of Roger Rain's House; the genius of rain being supposed to have made it his habitation, from the circumstance of water incessantly falling in large drops through the crevices of the roof. Beyond this opens another fearful hol-

low, called the Chancel, where the rocks appear much dislocated and broken, and large masses of stalactite incrust the

sides and prominent points of the cavity.

From the Chancel the path conducts to the Devil's Cellar, and thence, by a gradual and somewhat rapid descent, about one hundred and fifty feet in length, to the Half-way House: neither of these places furnish any objects particularly deserving of observation. Further on, the way proceeds beneath three natural arches, pretty regularly formed; beyond which is another vast concavity in the roof assuming the shape of a bell, and, from this resemblance, denominated Great Tom of Lincoln. This part, when illuminated by a strong light, has an extremely pleasing effect; the remarkable position of the rocks, the stream flowing at their feet, and the fossil encrenite, &c. appearing in the roof, making a very interesting picture. The distance from this point to the termination of the cavern is not considerable; the vault gradually descends, the passage contracts, and at length nearly closes, leaving no more room than is sufficient for the passage of the water, which flows through a subterraneous channel of some miles, as the ratchell, or small stones, brought into the cavern after heavy rains, from the distant mines of Peak Forest, evidently prove.

The entire length of this wonderful cavern is seven hundred and fifty yards, and its depth from the surface of the mountain, above two hundred and seven. It is wholly formed in the limestone strata, which are full of marine exuviæ, and occasionally display an intermixture of chert. From different parts of the cavern some communications open with other fissures; but none of these equal it either in extent or grandeur. Through one of these, a very large fissure to the left, immense quantities of fragments of stone and debris are thrown out, perhaps from the Speedwell Mine level and the basin at Perry-Foot, as already noticed, which may empty their waters into this cavern. In extremely wet weather the interior cannot be visited, as the water fills up a great portion of the cavern, and rises to a considerable height even near the entrance: at other times the access is not very difficult. A curious effect is produced by a blast or the explosion of a small quantity of gunpowder, when wedged into the rock in the inner part of the cave; the sound appears to roll along the roof and sides, like a heavy and

continued peal of overwhelming thunder.

The effect of the light, when returning from the recesses of the cavern, is particularly impressive; and the eye, unaccustomed to the contrast, never beholds it without lively emotions of pleasure. "The gradual illumination of the rocks, which become brighter as they approach the entrance, and the chastened blaze of day, that, 'shorn of its beams,' arrays the distance in morning serenity, is, perhaps, one of the most beautiful scenes that the pencil could be employed to exhibit."

THE FORMATION OF THE CAVERN AND ITS CAUSES.

This remarkable Cavern has been the product of volcanic action, but much modified in its interior by the force of floods passing through it. Most probably the water originally issued out at the large opening or arch, till it found its present outlet, very likely in consequence of the mining operations in the immediate vicinity—then the effect of the hydrostatic pressure on its narrower portions, especially where it assumes the appearance of an arched passage, would be tremendous.* Its hollows or domed parts (as, for instance, that called Great Tom of Lincoln), would be scooped out by the rapid eddies or whirlpools on the surface of the moving mass. The action is powerful even now during high floods, when it makes its way, as before, out at the great opening. This magnificent and stupendous arch has been doubtless formed by the masses separating during those convulsions which upheaved the rocks, the under portions falling back, and leaving the upper ones standing in their present fearful positions, propped one against the other, and presenting almost every variety of opening. The arch would be rounded and smoothed off by the incessant action of the elements, and owing to this, it exhibits a semblance of regular masonry. An intelligent foreigner has stated in his Journal, that the approach to Peak's Hole forcibly reminded him of the rock of the Fontaine de Vaucluse, from its strong resemblance to it.

Our next point was to the Winnats, Tray Cliff, the Blue John and the Speedwell Mines. The latter we first reached, situated on the old road to Buxton, at the entrance of the Winnats.

^{*} The ingulfement of the stream which flows through the subterranean chambers both of this Cavern and the Speedwell, is at a place called Perry-Foot, about three miles from Castleton, on the Buxton road. This has been proved by chaff or slips of paper thrown into the water there, frequently finding their way into the Cavern. An immense quantity of matter is forced into the Cavern during floods.

THE SPEEDWELL LEVEL was originally driven in search of lead ore, by a company of adventurers from Staffordshire, who commenced their undertaking upwards of seventy years ago, but with such little success, that, after an expenditure of £14,000., and eleven years of ceaseless labour exerted in vain, the works were obliged to be abandoned. The descent is beneath an arched vault, by a flight of one hundred and six steps, which leads to the sough or level, where a boat is ready for the reception of the visitors, who are impelled along the stream by the motion communicated to the boat by the guide, through pushing against wooden pegs driven into the sides of the rock at six feet distance from each other. The depth of the water is about three feet. The channel through which it proceeds was blasted through the solid rock, which was found so hard, that implements of sufficient temper could hardly be procured to penetrate it. As the boat proceeds, several veins of lead ore may be observed in the rock, but not of sufficient value to defray the expense of working.

At the distance of six hundred and fifty yards from the entrance, the level bursts into a tremendous gulf, whose roof and bottom are completely invisible, but across which the navigation has been carried by flinging a stone arch over a part of the fissure where the rocks are least separated. Here, leaving the boat, and ascending a stage erected above the level, the attention of the visitor is directed to the dark recesses of the abyss beneath his feet; and firm, indeed, must be his resolution, if he can contemplate its depth unmoved, or hear it described without an involuntary shudder. To the depth of ninety feet all is vacuity and gloom; but beyond that commences a pool of Stygian waters-not unaptly named the Bottomless Pit-whose prodigious range may in some measure be conceived, from the circumstance of its having swallowed up more than forty thousand tons of rubbish made in blasting the rock, without any apparent diminution either in its depth or extent. The guide, indeed, informs you that the former has not been ascertained; yet we have reason to believe that this is incorrect, and that its actual depth in standing water is about three hundred and twenty feet. There cannot, however, be a doubt but that this abyss has communications with other fissures, still more deeply situated in the bowels of the mountain, and into which the precipitated rubbish has found a passage. The superfluous water of the level falls through a "water-gate"

into this profound caldron, with a noise like a rushing torrent. This gulf is supposed to be nearly two hundred and eighty yards below the surface of the mountain. The effect of a Bengal light in this stupendous cavity is extremely magnificent and interesting. Beyond this fissure the level has been driven to a similar length to that part which precedes it; but in this division of its course little occurs to excite observation.

WINNATS. From the Speedwell we proceeded up this remarkable chasm, where nature seems to protrude her giant forms to the very zenith. Fearful as it is, this, for centuries, was the only accessible point from Buxton and Chapel-en-le-Frith. It is called the Winnats, or Wind-gates, from the stream of air that is generally found to sweep through it. "Happy," says Warner, " "was the imagination that first suggested its name-the gates or portals of the winds, since wild as these sons of the tempests are, the massive rocks which nature here presents, seem to promise a barrier sufficiently strong to oppose their maddest fury." Precipices rising to a prodigious height, dark, rugged, and perpendicular, heave their unwieldy masses on each side of the road, which makes several inflexions on its descent, and frequently presenting themselves in front, threaten opposition to all further progress. These masses throwing their dark shadows across at different points as we toil up the steep, render the scene most impressive.

The fair authoress of the "Vignettes of Derbyshire," who gives a most vivid description of this, observes, "that the pathway is not broader than will admit two carriages to pass, and is enclosed by lofty mountains, the base of each seeming to cross each as if to interrupt the progress, broken by the peaked rocks of silver grey that starts from their sides. Thus apparently obstructed, but still advancing, we wound along; every dozen paces presenting a different appearance. No sky to be seen but that directly above our heads, the zenith and boundary of our aerial view, and that was of the bluest hue. One moment there seemed to be no human beings but our three selves, the next showed us one of our own species, like the samphire gatherer of Dover cliffs, hanging in the middle air, collecting the moss with which the upper regions of mountains are covered; two patient asses waiting at their base for the verdant burden. A few paces

^{*} Northern Tour, vol. i. p. 165.

forward, and they were again shut out from the view. The pass terminated in a wild country, over which we took one look, and retraced our steps down the Winnats. The difference of ascending and descending was strongly marked. The point of the rocks, almost rising above our sight as we went upwards, seemed, on our return, to lie beneath our feet. The last opening is superlatively fine; two grand and pointed rocks forming its side screens, and admitting the sudden and bursting sight of Hope Dale, with far distant views, 'where the purple mountains lie,' standing like the flaming sword of the seraphim at the gates of Paradise, and

turning every way as you approach them."

TRAY CLIFF. Above one of the lofty overhanging crags, after taking the sharp turn on the ascent, is the Old Tor Mine, out of which many a splendid piece of spar has been obtained. Having ascended the steep, we entered this at the "gate" or level, and examined the various heaps of fluor piled up on one side of the passage. Here a peculiar and beautiful kind of this stone is sometimes found, called, locally, "Haterel"-and which is of a fine greyish mossy white colour, with a delicate blue vein running in a zigzag line through it; a remarkably good piece of which my friend found in the "Coe," on entering. The entire face of a massive rock near this is studded with the "Blue John, which, having undergone the process of what is termed "changing," by the simple action of the sun's heat, is altered in colour from a dark blue to a beautiful amethystine or purple, which gems the face of the rude rock, and has an extremely fine appearance. The effect of the sun's heat on the fluor in different parts of this interesting Cliff is equally striking. We shall explain this natural process in the proper place. From hence, we took our way over the crest of the Cliff to the

"TRE-CLIFF, OR BLUE JOHN MINE,"

now the most productive of this fine material, and decidedly one of the largest natural as well as artificial excavations

in the county.

But before entering it, we should remark, that this insular and saddle-like Cliff is the only one where the Blue John is found in sufficient quantity and mass for "working up," and where the finest specimens in the world are obtained. We say "insular," because it is cut off by the deep chasm of the Winnats from the Long Cliff, and equally so from Mam Tor, by the dark rugged gully or ravine of the Odin Mine.* It is certainly not a little singular that this peculiar material (the Blue John) should only be found "en masse" here; within the range of one solitary hill. It is found in the greatest perfection enveloped in clay, attached to what are termed "riders" or detached rocks occurring in the "pipework"—a peculiar kind of vein with a "roof and sole."

We now entered the "Coe" of this mine, and prepared to descend by putting on the preservative smock frock and slouch hat of the miner, now, however, no longer necessary, as the proprietors have made an excellent and safe road throughout the mine. The descent is very rapid, and over very rough, but safe steps, down which a rail is carried for the passage of the mining wagon—which is drawn up and down by a chain attached to a windlass. Piled up on one side of the descent we observed immense heaps of the yellow elastic bitumen. By rude stone and wooden steps, we made our way downwards about sixty yards, first through an arched passage, and then through irregular openings, which led into caverns and passages under these high mountains of indefinite extent.

It is said that the late Lord Mulgrave was three days exploring this extensive mine, accompanied by proper guides, without finding any termination, and it is asserted by the most experienced miners that a chain of magnificent Caverns connect Eldon Hole, Peak Cavern, the Speedwell, and that beautiful gem, Bagshaw's Cavern at Bradwell, with this mine, extending over an area of many square miles. This is supposed to be proved from the connecting streams of water

which pass through them.

In the perilous adventure of Lord Mulgrave, the passage was found, in many parts, as might be expected, extremely rude and difficult, being sometimes obstructed by enormous masses of rock, and at others impeded by precipitous gulfs, where the use of ropes became necessary to aid the descent. The strangely confused appearance of the fissures; the abrupt and dislocated contour of the rocks which bounded them; the singular direction of the path, now suddenly darting into the depths of the earth, and then proceeding by a more easy and circuitous route; and the effect produced on the mind by this wonderful arrangement of Nature's scenery,

This gully divides the Shale of Mam Tor from the Limestone beds of the Cliff.

are circumstances which it is impossible by any description to convey accurately to the mind; they must be seen to be experienced in all their impressive power and

grandeur.

It is in exploring such extraordinary excavations that the mind may arrive at any thing like a just idea of Nature's vastness and its own insignificance; for the feeling is involuntarily forced upon us, that the slightest movement of the enormous masses would crush us, "as before the moth." We did not choose to follow his Lordship's track to the fullest extent, for having arrived, by numerous windings, at one of these mighty gulfs, which could only be descended by the assistance of a rope, we stopped short, and for awhile examined with profound admiration, by the help of our flickering lights, the left hand boundary of the opening in which we found ourselves.

VISIT TO THE BLUE JOHN MINE IN 1843.

On visiting the mine this year, we were delighted to find a material improvement had been effected in the roadway into it; so that ladies in their delicate dresses might explore it without fear of spoiling them. We descended with great facility by a series of steps, passing, as before stated, heaps of refuse Blue John and the brown bitumen. On arriving at a point at a considerable depth down, and after various sharp turnings, we looked up and beheld one of the candles (purposely left by the guide) at a great height above us, looking like a brilliant fixed star amidst the gloom of the cavern. It really had a very striking effect. We now arrived at a very large opening which we shall return to presently, and passed along a magnificent winding chasm of prodigious height. The jutting rugged rocks at each sharp angle, covered chiefly with beautiful pure white and yellowish stalactites, of every imaginable form, gave to their bold and lofty masses the light appearance and elegant form of "frets," and other ornamental and Gothic work, so that we might easily fancy ourselves walking along the corridors and aisles of some magnificent cathedral. We observed on the sides in several places as we passed along, that singular formation of stalactite, provincially called the "Beehive," from its accumulating in raised and rippled forms, not unlike the annular structure of the common Beehive. Indeed, the sides of the chasm are lined with this for many square

vards, and being always covered with abundance of moisture. it conveys to the mind the idea of water when gently rippled with the wind. We have noticed something similar in our remarks on Poole's Hole, Buxton, but there it existed in stalagmites, formed on the floor of the cavern. This part preserves the same interesting character till nearly reaching what is termed Lord Mulgrave's dining-room, a noble opening, probably not less than a hundred and fifty feet high, and sixty-six wide, well worthy an approach of such splendour and beauty. This immense cavity is formed by two cross veins which intersect each other at nearly right angles. Such cavities occasionally occur in pipe veins, as they are termed, but are rarely found of such magnitude. In this apartment, the noble Earl alluded to, dined as a "finale" to his subterranean excursions. In the Spring of 1845, one hundred and thirty scholars, with their teacher, headed by the Rev. S. Waddly, visited the Mine, and on arriving at this large opening, they sung the 100th Psalm. The effect was splendid, as the sound rolled on through the galleries and immense openings of this remarkable Mine. We next proceeded to the variegated cavern (as they are pleased to term it) which for extent and magnitude exceeded every thing we had yet seen, and which is the lowest point generally shown, all beyond it being difficult of access. When the guide let off the Bengal light we could form a better idea of the vast opening in which we were. A yawning gulf opened close to the rails where we stood, which seemed to reach to immeasurable depths; and above us, the powerful light failed to reflect its refulgence to the roof. The guide supposed it might be 200 feet high, but of this we had no means of Many parts are covered with fine stalactites. On retracing our steps, the eye being more accustomed to the darkness of the vaults which we traversed, we saw with more distinctness the beautiful forms of the stalactites which mantled their sides, and we again found the "Corridor," an object of the deepest interest. Near the upper end, we turned down a few steps, into the organ gallery, so styled from a series of stalactites assuming something of the organ form on one side of the recess. This is really curious, but here, just beneath it, is a vein of the fluor spar which soon arrests the attention, as the mine is named from being worked solely for this beautiful material. It is also shown in other parts of the same cavity, but we must reserve our remarks

upon this until we come to give a sketch of its history, at the end of the volume. From hence we re-ascend to view the opening which we had passed through on entering, which was now lit up with great effect, by drawing up into the magnificent dome a rude chandelier filled with lights. The lofty walls of this appeared clustered with stalactites of the purest white. Along the top it formed something like an enriched cornice, from which were suspended numerous stalactites; assuming at intervals the appearance of drapery of exquisite texture, falling in the most graceful folds and streaming down like fine cords to the bottom. The contrast of the gloomy cavern and dark rock mantled with this beautiful material, had the finest imaginable effect. This is by far the most brilliant opening we had ever seen or read of. The sides generally are fretted with stalactites, which assume innumerable forms of a most florid and beautiful character. No one can fail being pleased by visiting it. The Author visited the mine in 1843, accompanied by G. Rowe, Esq., artist, of Cheltenham, who so admired this fine opening, that he made a sketch of it, which was immediately published. We now retraced our steps, examining the Blue John veins at different points in our way. In one place we found a fine roundish or nodular mass attached to the rock; and near the top, in passing through the chert measures, we observed numerous fossils, standing in relief, and rounded cavities formed by the force of water, as no doubt this pipe-work chasm originally ingulfed the stream from the upper basin, encircled by Mam Tor, the Lord's seat, and the lofty hill on the south. It is not difficult to imagine the tremendous pressure on all the horizontal roofs of the mine when filled by floods which fretted and worked out all the softer parts, leaving the shells prominent, and scooping out the bell-shaped cavities. The mine is presumed to have been drained of its water by the working of the mines beneath, or by the ruin of the face of Mam Tor, which let out the water at a lower level.

The charge for exploring the mine, is for one person two shillings; for three, four shillings and sixpence; for four, five shillings; and one shilling extra for every additional person. A Bengal light, or a blast, if required, would be an additional charge. We would recommend all parties, before entering this mine, or any other, to ascertain the

charge, which will avoid disappointment.

MAM TOR

is an eminence of considerable interest, not simply from the vulgar errors which have thrown their sable mantle over it,* but also from its summit exhibiting traces of an ancient Roman encampment, surrounded by a double trench—the entrance to which is on the west-and on the north-east side, within the vallum, is a perennial spring. Two barrows also exist here. The view from the top is commanding. The elevation above the valley being about thirteen hundred feet, and the ascent on every side exceedingly steep. The view into Edale, on the north, is charming, which a fair tourist (before quoted) compares to the "Vale of Rasselas;" from hence the loftiest hills and some of the loveliest vales of Derbyshire are included in the prospect. But its geological character is of the greatest interest, and to which is owing the destruction of the southern side. This must have been effected within the range of authentic history, as the remains of the Roman trench are clearly traceable to the margin on each side, and are exactly opposite to each other; the top then must have been entire. This may have originated in nothing more than what is termed a "land slip." In the first instance, the action of the torrents, down the gully, dividing this hill from Tray Cliff, might effectually undermine the base of the Tor and throw it down, and thus lay part of the face bare. This once effected, the work of destruction would make rapid strides, owing to the nature of the materials of which the hill is composed; these consist of shale and gritstone, occurring in alternate layers; the former exists in the greatest quantity, and by the effect of storms and rain, and severe frosts, is broken up and crumbles to pieces, undermining the solid and less destructible masses of the grit; which, when thus gradually overbalanced, come down with a thundering noise, bringing tons of the shale with them. † When the author went up, on approaching the margin of this ruin, it seemed to overhang in frightful masses at some points. It is said that fair fields, trees, and cottages, once existed at the base, but have been overwhelmed by these slips. It appears that trees have been

+ After severe frosts this is particularly the case, when the effects of these falls is felt and heard at Castleton.

^{*} The vulgar notion is, that the destruction of the face is owing to a perpetual shivering, hence the term Shivering Mountain, and that not-withstanding it has suffered "no diminution in bulk."

found pretty entire, at a considerable depth in the mines worked at its foot.

The road which used to lead through the Winnats is carried down by the base of this hill, and takes us close by the celebrated Odin Mine, worked from time immemorial. It is supposed to have derived its name from one of the Scandinavian divinities-a proof of its having been worked by the Saxons. The lead ore found here is that termed "potter's ore," yielding about three ounces of silver in a ton of the ore. Here also is found that singular mineral, elastic bitumen, the largest, and perhaps the finest, specimen of which in the world we saw at Mr. Ellis Needham's, of the Museum, opposite the Castle Inn, and who generally keeps a large assortment of all the minerals found in the neighbourhood. We cannot do better than recommend the stranger to Mr. Needham for every particular respecting Castleton and its productions, as he has been from a child conversant with this mine and the products of the neighbourhood.

The Museum. This was once the favoured resort of Mr. Mawe, who at one time invariably spent two months in the Autumn here, deriving from the neighbourhood of Castleton that sound practical knowledge which so much distinguished his various Treatises on Mineralogy and Geology, and which rendered the Establishment in the Strand, London (now in the possession of Professor Tennant), so attractive to all who pursued, and desired to cultivate, that favourite science of the day—Geology. The Musuem is now the property of Mr. Needham, who conducted it during Mr. Mawe's time, for about forty years. Here we saw a pair of those solid clumsy Spar Urns, one of the earliest specimens of the spar manufacture; and by contrast with the light, elegant, and beautiful forms of more modern days, we could observe the

great improvement which had been effected.

There is also another shop, equally dignified by the title of a Museum, near to the Peak Cavern (Mr. Hall's), where are some good things of the manufacture of the county.

CAVE DALE.—Should the traveller have time, a ramble up this singular Dale will repay the trouble. The extremely narrow and gloomy portal, which is between massive overhanging rocks—the gently opening ravine beyond—narrow, and bounded by steep but grassy acclivities, with scarcely a shrub or tree to be seen in its entire length, except those that mantle the crags under or around the Castle, which is here

an object of great interest, from its remarkable position, occupying the lofty crest on the right side and overhanging the chasm of the Peak Cavern—and if he chooses to ascend to it, as the author did from this Dale, he must have a clear head and a sure foot. A considerable way up this dell the Toadstone appears, and a singular pillar-like mass is disclosed, like those at Staffa, or the Giant's Causeway.

Basaltic Column. We made a visit to the pillar this spring, and were very much gratified in finding it. It may be found on the side of the low Cliff on the left, after passing the gate at the top of the dale. The Column, if it may be so called, is about three feet high, and eighteen inches over the top. The three outer

sides of the hexagon are well defined. The other three dip into the hill and are not so clearly made out, but still there is every evidence of a true hexagonal column of the toadstone. There is not such another in Derbyshire of the magnitude. It is considered therefore of some interest, especially

to the geologist.

Before quitting Castleton, we must notice the Church, which is a neat structure, and contains three monuments of some interest. The first we shall name is that erected to the memory of the late John Mawe, Esq., of London, the Mineralogist—a simple and unostentatious tribute of affection. The second to the memory of the Rev. Edward Bagshaw, a man whose delight was in the service of his Lord and Master; and we name this simply in contrast with another, just the reverse in character, that of Micah Hall, gent., attorney-at-law, who left an inscription to be put on his monument, remarkable for its rude, unfeeling, and independent nature; which is given below in English, although, to hide its deformity, it exists in Latin.*

In the excursion to this interesting spot, of which we have now given ample details, and such as we trust will prove acceptable to the general reader, we returned by the head of Monsal Dale, already noticed, (page 152) Ashford, and Bake-

Inscription on the Tablet—"What I was you know not—What I am you know not—Whither I am gone you know not—Go about your business."

well; but on a subsequent visit, we passed through the pretty village of Hope, and proceeded by way of

BRADWELL CAVERN,

to explore that beautiful stalactitic gem. We should say to those who do not regard a little labour and trouble, visit it by all means. Sometimes the greater the trouble, the greater the pleasure; such things form an event—a beautiful episode, or striking digression from the common beaten track of life-rugged enough, 'tis true, generally; but still these afford interesting and beautiful variations, which impress the memory in such a way as never to be obliterated. In visiting this Grotto (or series of Grottos,) as it ought more properly to be styled, the lover of nature cannot be disappointed; it is so rich in stalactitic matter-so beautiful in its combinations, and endless in the variety of forms which stud and adorn its different portions.—It may be very properly termed a Stalactitic Cavern. We shall simply give the names of the different openings, which are fanciful enough, and leave the reader to form his own opinion when he has explored it .-First, we have, after a toilsome way, the Music Chamber; and in succession the Grotto of Paradise, Grotto of Calypso, Hall of State, &c., &c. On entering this Cavern, the convenient covering of the miner is needful to shield the delicate dresses of the ladies. - Some ladies humorously described to the author their appearance in a miner's dress, a short time ago, on visiting it.

CHAPTER IV.

REMARKS ON THE COTTON TRADE, SIR RICHARD ARKWRIGHT, HIS INVENTIONS, AND CROMFORD AND MASSON MILLS.

WE cannot conclude the volume without again adverting to CROMFORD, as the rise and wonderful advancement of the cotton trade may be regarded as originating in it; this being the place where Sir Richard Arkwright established the first cotton mill on the improved principle in this county, and laid the foundation of a princely fortune; at the same time rendering essential service to his country, as the present gigantic extent and unrivalled advancement of all the

branches of this trade evince: for he who makes a discovery in art or science, which proves the basis of all future proceedings, or the key to open the door to hidden sources of knowledge or of wealth, decidedly lays the solid foundation on which the whole majestic superstructure is ultimately reared; and such individuals must, through the blessing of God, be the benefactors of their country and mankind. But this eminent man not only made discoveries, but carried them into practical operation; by which he raised himself from a very humble station to one of wealth, rank, and importance; and formed the nucleus of that fortune by which his son (the late Richard Arkwright, Esq.) became the richest commoner

in the kingdom.*

Sir Richard was born at Preston, in Lancashire, in 1732, and was the youngest of thirteen children-and doubtless experienced all the difficulties and discouragements attendant on his humble station, as one of the numerous offspring of a poor man. But some men are born to achieve great things, and these strikingly exhibit the wonder-working power "of Him who raiseth up the poor out of the dust," that He "may set him with princes, even with the princes of his people."+ The native vigour of his mind was not to be repressed, or his desire to emerge, to be extinguished by the difficulties of his position in life; therefore we find him, after a variety of fortunes, endeavouring to carry his designs and inventions into effect, by establishing himself in Nottingham in 1768. He was accompanied thither by Kay, the watchmaker, who had assisted him in the preparation of parts of his machine. The precise time when he made the discovery of spinning by rollers is not known, but it is supposed the felicitous idea occurred to him about the period when Hargraves was engaged in the invention of the spinning-jenny;

^{*} This gentleman died in the spring of 1843, in a good old age. He has left a numerous family, nobly provided for; and, we may add, that while he lived he both studied the comforts and aided the wants of all around him. He lived, the latter years of his life, in absolute retirement. His personal property has been quoted at millions, besides landed property to a large amount!!!

+ Psalm cxiii. 7, 8.

[‡] Sir Richard stated, that he accidentally derived the first hint from seeing a red-hot iron bar elongated by being made to pass between rollers; and although there is no mechanical analogy between that operation and his process of spinning, it is not difficult to imagine that by reflecting upon it, and placing the subject in different points of view, it might have led him to this invention.

in Nottingham. His operations at first were much fettered for want of capital; but Mr. Strutt, of Derby, a gentleman of great mechanical skill, and largely engaged in the stocking manufacture, having seen Arkwright's inventions, and satisfied himself of their extraordinary value, entered, conjointly with Mr. Need, into partnership with him, which gave him the command of the necessary funds, with which he erected his first mill driven by horse power. But as this mode of working the machinery proved too expensive, Sir Richard built the Cromford mill in 1771, by which he obtained that powerful adjunct, water, to set his machinery in motion, on the principle of the famous silk-mill set up in Derby by Sir Thomas Lombe. Sir Richard's wonderful penetration may be discovered by the very choice of a situation for his Cromford mills, which was so suitable to carry on his extensive plans. These mills are supplied from a never-failing spring of warm water, originating in the Cromford Moor Sough, and which is therefore always available, by not being liable to freeze in winter. Sir Richard took out his first patent for spinning by rollers in 1769, and having made several additional discoveries and improvements in the modes of carding, roving, and spinning, he took out a fresh patent for the whole in 1775, and thus completed a series of machinery so various and complicated, yet so admirably combined, and wonderfully adapted for the purposes intended, that it has excited the admiration of every one capable of appreciating the ingenuity displayed and the difficulties overcome.

A third mill was built higher up the stream, called Masson, which is replete with the improved machinery employed in making cotton thread. The whole of these mills belong to P. Arkwright, Esq., grandson of the eminent founder. About five hundred hands are at present employed. Sir Richard bought the estate and manor of Willersley of Thomas Hallet Hodges, Esq., in 1782, and shortly afterwards commenced building the present beautiful Castle; but owing to an accident by fire in 1791, it was not finally completed till after the death of Sir Richard. He received the honour of knighthood in 1788, in which year he was High Sheriff of the county. He died in 1792, aged sixty, lord of the manor of Cromford, and founder of the chapel already named, p. 70. It would be superfluous to describe the gigantic extent of the cotton trade, as this is a subject now well known.

GEM OF THE PEAK.

PART V.

CHAPTER I.

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE FLUOR SPAR.

ITS ANCIENT HISTORY, MODERN HISTORY, EXTRAORDINARY COST OF THE ANCIENT VASES, NATURE OF THE PLUOR SPAR, WHERE FOUND, LARGE VASES IN SPAR, ANCIENT MOSAIC WORK, DERIVATION OF THE NAME, MODERN PORCELAIN MOSAIC, FLORENCE PIETRA DURA, MATLOCK DITTO.

THE beautiful material which has been the foundation of the present advancement and perfection of the Derbyshire-we might say the country's-ornamental marble work, has been known to the moderns only about eighty-one years; but from a few facts we shall bring forward, there is every reason to believe that this fine stone was found by the Romans, and that elegant chalices, made of it, graced the feasts and were exceedingly admired by that polished people, as it is even now by the Italians, who inhabit their land, and dwell among the ruins-the only vestiges-of their ancient gran-There is ample evidence to prove that the Romans worked the lead mines over the greater part of the present mining district, extending from Wirksworth to Castleton, as they not only had several stations along the line of mining operations to protect their mineral treasures, but the tools which they used have been found in the old workings; and also "pigs of lead," as they are called,* have been dug up in many parts of the district, with Latin inscriptions, several of which may be seen in the British Museum; on one of them is the name of the Emperor Domitian, and on a second, the name of the Emperor Hadrian. The latter was found on

The first form in which the lead is cast, is oval, and weighs about one hundred and seventy-six pounds, and is stamped with the maker's name.

Cromford Moor, near Matlock, in 1777. It weighed 126 pounds, and the following inscription occurred in raised letters on its top:—

IMP, CAES, HADRIANI, AUG, MET, LVT,

The great Roman naturalist, Pliny, observes, that "in Britain, in the very upper crust of the ground, lead is dug up in such plenty, that a law was made on purpose to stint them to a set quantity." This passage is referred to by the learned Camden with regard to the original richness of this mineral district. Tacitus also, in recording the speech of Galgacus to his soldiers, to show the consequences of defeat, mentions "tributes—mines, and the rest of the penalties of slavery."

One of the Roman stations, "Brough," is situated within two miles of the hill in which this stone is found; and there can scarcely be a doubt that they found it in working the mines in that hill. The stone when broken and exposed to the sun, has such a beautiful appearance, that it could not fail to attract the attention of even a careless observer; and as that people brought the rich products and beauties of the east to Rome, they would likewise send every thing they found new and rare in the "Ultima Thule" they had conquered. Hence it is the opinion of some learned men, that the beautiful "Vasa Murrhina," or Myrrhene Vases (a name supposed to be derived from Myrr-stones) were made of Fluor Spar. Their lustre was said to be vitreous in the highest degree, and in part or generally translucent. "The principal colours were purple and white, disposed in undulating bands, and usually separated by a third band, in which the two colours being mixed, assumed the tint of flame." Such is Pliny's description, given in the note, and which most accurately describes the fine undulating bands seen on spar vases; and also equally applies to a beautiful species of this stone, called the dice spar, that exhibits to the eye a brilliant purple and flame-like colour, with triangular faces or Spiculæ. Pliny also says they were sometimes spotted or mixed with foreign matter. The Spar has occasionally lead ore and iron pyrites mixed with it. These vessels were brittle, as they could be easily abraded with the teeth. Pliny relates the story of a man of consular rank being so enamoured with one, that he bit a piece out of the lip-which would not be the case with a silicious material or porcelain glass.

From all these circumstances, and the peculiar qualities of the Vases, we have no doubt of some of them being made of Fluor Spar,* whilst others of a flame-like colour, said to have come from the east, were made either of chalcedony,† or coloured porcelain glass, or both—similar to many of the Chinese ornamental vessels, cups, &c., now so well known in

this country. We give here a slight sketch of an ancient chalice, made in chalcedony or agate, now in the possession of the Earl of Newburgh. It is about $5\frac{3}{4}$ inches over the top, and 8 inches high, and of considerable value. The form of this chalice is somewhat different to those supposed to be made in the fluor spar, the shape of which is presumed to have been more like an old-fashioned tumbler or goblet, as already named. t



COST OF THE VASES.

It is not only the extreme scarceness, but also the depth, richness, and beauty of these Vases, which stamped their value, and excited admiration. They were eagerly sought for and purchased by the wealthy, at incredible prices. The general price of one of the largest size, in the time of Pliny, was £7,000; but he adds that Petronius gave 300 talents, or £30,000, for one of the largest and finest, which he broke after being condemned to death by Nero, supposing that the

^{*} The late Mr. Mawe once told the author that a piece of one in the Spar had been found in France; but it cannot be traced to any authentic source. Dr. Thompson, in his History of Chemistry (National Library, vol. iii. p. 87), has a clever article on the subject, in which he gives it as his decided opinion, that these Vases could only be made of Fluor Spar. Both Baron Born and M. Roziere were of the same opinion.

⁺ Chalcedony was first found at Chalcedon, in Asia Minor; and the first vessels seen in Rome were sent by Pompey from the treasures of Mithridates, and most probably were made of this stone.

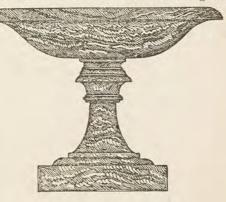
[#] Many of these beautiful shapes are now made at Matlock in the Spar and Marble.

tyrant wished to possess it! And Nero himself is said to have paid for one 6,000 sestertia, or nearly £50,000. sterling.

MODERN HISTORY OF THE FLUOR SPAR.

It appears that all knowledge of the Fluor Spar, as an ornament, was lost after the Romans had quitted the country, till 1770, when Mr. Platts, of the Rotherham marble works, picked up two or three pieces of the Spar in Earl Fitzwilliam's gardens, at Wentworth. Being struck with its peculiar character, he formed a pair of salt cellars of considerable beauty, which attracted the attention of Mr. Robert Hall, of Castleton (a mineral surveyor, and the first practical geologist of the Peak), when on a visit to Mr. Platts. But how came it into Lord Fitzwilliam's gardens?-It was found, on inquiry, that a messenger, sent with a light cart into the Peak of Derbyshire, had seen it on going up the Winnats, and was tempted on his return, from its remarkable appearance, to load his cart with it, thinking it would look well as an ornament in the garden. Mr. Hall, who was perfectly aware of its existence as a mineral, gave the long desired information as to its real locality, and thus revived the manufacture of the Spar into ornamental vases. Parties at Castleton, Buxton, Matlock, and Derby, on its being made known, eagerly purchased it. Mr. Brown of Derby, and Mr. Shore of Matlock, brought the manufacture to the earliest perfection. The Vase of which we have given

a sketch, was manufactured 4 by the author for the Duke of Devonshire. and is, without exception, the largest Vase, of one piece, in the world. The undulating bands on this beautiful Vase, with the different play of colours it



exhibits, is exactly answerable to the description given by Pliny. The Spar is rarely found in large lumps. The diameter of this Vase is about 20 inches. The ancient vases were of sufficient size to hold only about 41 pints,* and these were made in the form of a large goblet or old-fashioned tumbler, as already stated. We have seen in several publications, engravings showing this shape, and there are now a pair of very beautiful Vases of this form in the possession of Lord Wardwick, nearly similar in size. Vases have been made of larger size than the last named, but seldom in their natural, unchanged state. Besides the Duke's splendid Vase. there are two others in the form of the ancient Grecian Vases. both sent to the Great Exhibition, or Crystal Palace. One was once in the author's possession, and is now the property of Mr. Jepson, of Chatsworth Inn; the other belongs to Mr. Vallance, of the Museum, Matlock.

Having given an account of some of the largest Vases, we will now describe the nature of the rough stone, as found in the mine, observing by the way, that the spar is composed of lime and fluoric acid; hence the name of Fluor Spar, and the provincial name of "Blue John," was adopted by the miners who first discovered it, to distinguish it from "Black

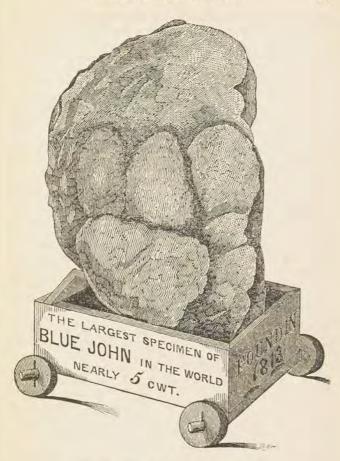
Jack," an ore of Zinc.+

CHARACTER OF THE SPAR.

The Fluor Spar is only found in one single hill at Castleton, called Tre-Cliff, and it occurs in three different mines in that hill, the specimens from which differ somewhat in colour and structure. That from the Cliff Side Mine is found in round-ish lumps, composed of aggregated cubes, and of a deep blue colour, diffused nearly equally throughout the entire mass; when this is sufficiently clear to be worked without "changing," then it forms Vases of the finest blue; and when dark and subjected to a strong heat, it is converted into a splendid purple, and forms also the "dice spar" in certain cases. These amorphous lumps, when cut in bell Vases and Naples Tazzas, display the angles of the cubes most beautifully, by the colcuring matter (oxide of manganese) following the interlineation of the cube of which the mass is composed.

* Plin. in loco.

⁺ The Spar was first found by two miners of the names of John Kirk and Joseph Hall, who worked the mines of Tre-cliff. I am obliged to Mr. Royce, of the Nag's Head, Castleton, for many interesting particulars respecting the Blue John.



Rough Specimen in the Chatsworth Conservatory.

We have given an engraving of one of the largest specimens ever found of this blue spar, exhibiting outwardly a mammillated or Botryoidal structure; but it is composed of a number of the round lumps we have stated. This specimen was exhibited some years ago on the truck, as sketched, at the Old Museum door (now closed), but was sold in

March, 1841, to His Grace the Duke of Devonshire, and is now in the Grand Conservatory at Chatsworth. It is 25 feet long, and about 6 feet in girth. The other kind is from the Old Tor Mine, overlooking the Winnats. Here it is found in irregular and undefined masses, with one white and blue vein alternating; often extremely porous, but still capable of being made into very beautiful Vases, frequently exhibiting zig-zag bands. The third and last variety is found in the celebrated Blue John Mine, and occurs there in flattish lumps, not exceeding three inches thick, excepting in the case of what is called a "double stone." This variety is of a brownish purple colour (commonly called "bull-beef"), and is so often full of "dry shakes," or "canky veins" (ferruginous), that it is difficult to procure a perfect Vase of any size out of it, and it is more frequently of so dark a colour as to require "changing," that is, subjecting to a strong heat (burning or baking it in an oven) to discharge the excess of the colouring matter, and so render it sufficiently transparent; without undergoing this process such stone would be useless. Occasionally, however, it is found of such fine quality as to do without the fiery process; then, indeed, some of the specimens are lovely! In changing this kind of stone it often assumes a rusty brown, which is far from beautiful; and in bell-shaped Vases it seldom looks so well as in tazzas and Naples Vases, the forms of which are better adapted to display the depth and beauty of the colours. Some of the slices cut from the round or curved double stones, present the most beautiful zoned colours, which are much admired. In manufacturing the spar, the men are obliged to run it with resin, in order to bind it together, that they may work it easily and without fracture. The flat pieces present a rugged and uneven fracture; sometimes foliated, but generally appearing as if the mass were composed of aggregated prisms. The structure of the rounded or nodular lumps is beautifully divergent.

The writer suspected Iron, as was generally supposed, could not be the cause of the fine colours in Blue John, by

^{*} A remarkable fine stone of this character was found in 1844, and is to be seen in the "Coe" of the mine. It is almost square, being 1 foot 9 inches, by 1 foot 11 inches, and on the average 6 inches thick. It is mammillated, or, to speak more plainly, covered all over with lumps or knobs. This is by far the largest specimen ever found of this kinds and it is nearly as large as the blue one already named. The proprietor will not sell it.

the effects produced in it by "changing." Iron, wherever and whenever it occurs in this stone when exposed to heat, becomes of a dirty brick-red, and diffused throughout the cracks of the Spar, and is a defect, but never in bands. Now the fact is, that the unchanged Spar is of a deep dark blue, and much of it quite opaque; but when exposed to intense heat, this excess of colour is dissipated, and it changes to a fine amethystine, just the effect produced on oxide of manganese by exposure, with glass borax as a flux, to the action of the blow-pipe; it colours the borax with this fine tinge. This is the test between iron and manganese if the material is not acted on by the magnet after roasting or heating.

Thirty-four years ago the manufacture of ornaments was chiefly confined to the fluor spar, stalactite, and some few fancy marbles, the forms of which were not always after the best models; but now the spar is made into light and elegant chalices, and other most tasty forms. A little before the period of which we speak, the black marble was introduced by Brown and Mawe, and has had a considerable influence over the trade. The capabilities of black marble to be converted into so many useful as well as ornamental objects, have made it what it now is; and especially by the introduction

by the late Mr. Moore, of Derby, of the

ENGRAVING OR ETCHING,

on the marble; it has multipled the variety of articles, by copying the characters of the Egyptian Obelisks accurately, at a small cost, and ornamenting bell and other vases with figures and groups from the best artists; also tables are done from Flaxman's drawings, illustrative of the Iliad and Odyssey, and copies of the Medicean and Borghesi, and other ancient vases, are very correctly imitated in this style. The late Mr. Mawe introduced many improved shapes, by procuring correct drawings of the antiqe vases.

MOONLIGHT SKETCHES.

The next important step taken in the marble was the introduction of moonlight sketches on the polished slabs, by which portraits, buildings, and landscapes, are strikingly represented in the soft and silvery light of the moon. The daughter of the late E. Rhodes, Esq., author of the Peak Scenery, had the merit of first introducing this style, in 1828, and it has since been perfected by Mr. Rayner and Mr. Bird, both of whom have embellished tables in the most

perfect and beautiful manner, with gentlemen's seats, landscapes, &c.; and slabs for paper weights have been done in great numbers.*

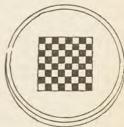
MOSAIC WORK.

The next, and by far the most important step taken, was the introduction of Mosaic, pietra dura, or Florence work, into the black marble. All the previous attempts at inlaying extended no farther than making patchwork or scrap tables, or inlaying the specimens in squares, or lozenge shape, without any regular design or imitation of living things. The first introduction of the Florence work was in the form of a butterfly, at Mawe's establishment, by the author, in 1834.

We give some of the earlier specimens of tables and chessboards of the Matlock inlaid work.



Oblong Inlaid Table.



Chase Tukla

But before we proceed to describe this, we will give a short account of the ancient Mosaic. The term Mosaic is applied to the art of composing figures in imitation of nature and paintings, by the judicious arrangement of fragments of marble and coloured glass inserted in a composition, which, becoming hard soon after the operation is completed, renders the subject a durable picture for ages. There are a variety of opinions about the derivation of the word Mosaic; some

^{*} The work is effected with steel points, about six in number, of various degrees of hardness, some sharp, and others obtuse, and sketched or rubbed in as with pencil drawings, only the work is reversed; the lights are got up with different degrees of intensity, instead of, as with pencils, putting in the shades. The rationale of this is, that the marble, when highly polished, is jet black, but unpolished it is grey—hence the contrast and the fine soft effect produced. The late Mr. Moore, and the Messrs. Hall. Spar-works, Derby, introduced a method of etching by which the polish is retained, which has a good effect.





Scrap or Patch-work Table.

even supposing the Mosaic work originated in Persia, during the reign of Artaxerxes; from thence it was carried to Greece, and ultimately to Rome. If so, there can be little doubt but that the idea would be derived from the beautiful set stones in the Aaronic breastplate, or from an attempt to perpetuate in durable material some of the splendid pieces of needle-work and embroidery so common among the higher classes in the east from the earliest ages; and adopted by the Jews in their Philacteries, in which Scripture characters were inwrought with such work. These formed broad margins on their robes.*

A French writer gives a different opinion, and observes, that Mosaic pavements, representing natural objects on grottos, were called Musea or Musia. It is probable that the public edifices appropriated to the assembling of men of letters, which were called Museums, or Musea, were orna-

mented with works of this description.

Pliny gives a threefold distinction to Mosaic work—that upon walls being called vermiculated (vermiculatum); that upon wood, segmentated (segmentatum); and that which constituted pavements, tessellated (tessellatum). But these terms were often confounded, or very inaccurately applied. Lucilius, in a note upon Cicero de Orat. 3, 169—observes, that "this description of pavement consisted of pieces of stone or pottery, covered with glass or glazed, and painted in enamel (incasta)." It is very difficult to give the exact meaning of this word. This invention was used in the baths of Agrippa, which he built at Rome, and was called Musaicum or Museicum, which is said to be the derivation of our word Mosaic.

^{*} Judges v. 30; Matt. xxiii. 5.

No Mosaic work, it is said, has been found in the ancient temples—only in the baths and villas of the wealthy patrician classes; and none of any kind has been discovered in Greece, which would lead us to suppose that it never was adopted by that people. The ancient tesselated floors that we have seen in this country were made of the stones found in the neighbourhood, and also of a kind of coarse earthenware or brick made for the purpose. These were used to form the representation of animals and other pictorial work. The pieces were sometimes glazed on the upper end, somewhat like our common pottery, or with a composition similar to the glaze on the Egyptian idols. But we may presume that all the finer and more ornamental works were composed entirely of real stones, and of the choicest kinds. The beautiful specimen now in the Vatican,* representing four pigeons laving themselves at a fountain, is all "pietra dura;" but the cost of such work is necessarily immense, both from the value of precious stones, and the difficulty of slitting and cutting such hard materials fine enough for the purpose. The Mosaic composed of glazed materials, made more perfect and beautiful in later days, has since been wholly substituted for the coloured porcelain glass. Magnificent specimens of this work cover the walls of St. Peter's at Rome, and that which covered the walls of the celebrated church destroyed in the great earthquake at Lisbon, was presumed

^{*} This beautiful thing was found in April, 1737, among the ruins of Adrian's Villa, below Tivoli, by the Prelate, afterwards Cardinal Ferelli, from whom it was purchased by Pope Clement XIII. This monument is remarkable for being the sole work hitherto discovered of the kind that has been wholly executed with pieces of real stones; the others have been partly composed with coloured vitrified substances, called Smalli by the Italian artists in Mosaic. This Mosaic formed part of a pavement. A Tablet executed representing the subject, is described by Pliny, who states it to have been a performance of Sones, a Greek artist of Pergamos, and that at the Capitol is generally supposed to be the same. We here give Pliny's description:—Mirabilis ibi Columba bibens, et aquam umbra capitis infuscans; apricantur aliae, scabentes sese in canthari labro.—Plin. Lib. xxxv. cap. x. The Duke of Devonshire has a fine copy of this amongst the enamels in the State rooms at Chatsworth. But the most extraordinary specimen yet found of the ancient Mosaic, is preserved in the palace of the Barbarini family at Palestrina, and is said to have originally covered the Sanctuary of the Temple of Preneste. This magnificent specimen represents an Egyptian scene on the banks of the Nile, with the figures of animals, women, and men in armour, performing religious ceremonies, temples, &c. Barthelemy supposes this to be a representation of the arrival of the Emperor Adrian in Upper Egypt. The size of this is 18 feet by 14 feet. There is a Mosaic fragment in Chatsworth, composed of marbles from Delos.

to be worth £400,000; * and we might instance here the wonderful mausoleum of Shah Jehan, at Agra, in India, as being one of the most beautiful and costly specimens of the kind ever executed, but which is more in the style of the Florentine than the Roman work.

After the invention of the porcelain glass, every colour and shade could be produced, and in all sizes required for the purposes wanted. And now the most beautiful Mosaics for brooches, tables, pictures, and all ornamental and fancy work, may be had at vastly less prices than the ancient ones, and equally durable. The pieces of porcelain being as little liable to decay as the hardest stones, and far less so than the marbles, and of course not at all affected by damp or moisture; hence the value of this discovery as applied to the re-

* The manner in which Mosaic pavements were composed, is explained by Keysler, whose accuracy is almost proverbial. According to this valuable author, persons were constantly employed at Rome in making copies in Mosaic of those excellent pictures which adorned the walls of St. Peter's Church, to replace the latter, as the damps of the building were gradually destroying them. The materials used for this purpose were small pieces of glass tinted with different gradations of colour, in the manner of the fine worsted used for needlework. The glass was cast in thin plates, and afterwards cut into pieces of different lengths and breadths: some intended for the composition of figures to be placed on vaults or ceilings were above half an inch in width, but those to be placed near the spectator were formed by pieces not thicker than a common pin, of which two millions were said to be necessary to compose a figure four feet square. The substance prepared to receive these shreds of glass, is a kind of paste composed of calcined marble, fine sand, gum tragacanth, the white of egg, and oil. As some time elapses before the composition hardens, there is no difficulty in placing the glass properly, but after a certain interval it becomes so extremely solid, that nothing less than violence can separate it. Keysler mentions that the paste is first spread in a frame of wood, which must not be less than a foot in breadth and thickness, if the piece be any thing large. The frame is secured by brass nails to a plane of marble or stone; and as some of the most important subjects are 20 feet in length and 15 feet in breadth, an idea may be

formed of their very great weight.

The fragments of glass are arranged in their proper gradations in cases which are placed before the artist, as types are placed before the compositor in printing. The former were so very accurate in imitating the most beautiful strokes of the pencil, that the difference (according to Keysler) seems to consist only in the colours of the copy being more brilliant than those of the picture. When the copy is completed, it is polished in the same manner as a mirror, and after the operation is performed, it is impossible to discover that they are composed of an infinite number of fragments, as they rather resemble rich pictures covered with glass. Those

pieces intended for distant view are never polished.

+ A small piece of Mosaic work of about an inch square, representing the Adrian Vases in real stones, cost thirty years ago, twenty guineas. The same thing may now be had in porcelain for eighteen or twenty shillings.

placing of the fine old paintings on the walls of St. Peter's at Rome, and the copying of the splendid works of the old masters, which are so accurately done, that at a short distance it would be impossible to tell the difference between the originals and the copies. These noble works are therefore rendered in a measure imperishable by this method, and at a cost far less than could be conceived.

PIETRA DURA, OR FLORENCE MOSAIC.

In consequence of the interest we felt in this art, we have been more diffuse than we intended, and must proceed to that department of the inlaid work practised and brought to such perfection at Florence, which differs both from the ancient and also from the present Roman method, by being put in in larger pieces—for instance, all the same colours required in a figure of an animal, or flower, or leaf, might, and frequently are, inlaid in one piece, by which time and labour are saved. The Roman, is all inlaid in minute bits.

Having enlarged on the old method so much, we need say no more here than that the beautiful style so long adopted at Florence, was introduced into Matlock in 1835 by the author,

he first specimen being a butterfly.

We give some specimens of the "pietra dura" first done at Matlock.



This work advanced from butterflies to sprigs, birds, flowers, and foliage of every description, and some of the most beautiful designs and perfect workmanship are now done in this country, and introduced as ornamental tables, inlaid vases, &c., into many of the first noblemen's houses. Many of the beautiful scrolls and borders on the Shah Jehan's tomb, at Agra, have been exactly copied. We give an en-



graving of a part of the border of a chess table, done for Mrs. M. D. Rothschild, in 1840, copied from one done at Agra, in India, by order of Lady William Bentinck, being a fac simile of scrolls on the emperor Shah Jehan's tomb. Her Majesty the Queen has a magnificent table, (which we saw in Windsor Castle), inlaid with a wreath of flowers and foliage, with birds, butterflies, &c., placed most judiciously on different parts of the wreath, which completely encircled a large slab of fine black marble, and was elegantly mounted on a stand of the same material. Since that period the men able to do this work have multiplied greatly, and many beautiful and even splendid things have been done, and sent to the Crystal Palace. We can only notice two slabs done by Mr. Woodruff, of Bakewell, for Prince Albert, and one table

and stand done by Mr. Redfern, of Ashford, for the Duke of Devonshire. We name these as being equal to any thing that has ever been done in Italy, as far as the perfection and beauty of the work go. It is now become so common, that the work

may be found in every marble shop in the county. The materials used are much the same as those at Florence, except the introduction and free use of all the spars, stalactites, and marbles, with which the Peak abounds. The Florence work is composed chiefly of real stones, likewise the Derbyshire; hence the name of "pietra dura" applied to it. We should name that the late Mr. Hall, of the Spar and Marble Works, Derby, obtained the prize for a wreath table from the School of Design, London.

Thus we have attempted to give a rapid sketch of this interesting ornamental branch of trade, which now occupies a great many hands, and forms an important branch of business in the county of Derby, at Matlock, Buxton, Bakewell and Derby,

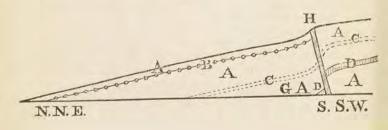
SECTION

OF A PORTION OF THE

BLACK LIMESTONE FORMATION,

AS SHOWN IN THE HILL ("HARRACK") ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE WYE, AT ASHFORD MARBLE WORKS.

As the Black Marble is an object of such interest, from its extensive appropriation to ornamental, as well as the most useful purposes, in the manufacture of vases, inlaid tables, chimney-pieces, &c. &c., the Author gives a Section of the hill in which some admirable beds of Black Marble are now quarried. The hill bounds the greater part of the south side of the valley of Ashford, of which the Section comprises a considerable portion; commencing near to the old bridge at Ashford, and ranging upwards to the plantation on the old Buxton road, so as to include the great fault and Rose woodMarble Bed.



SECTION. 375

EXPLANATION .- The letter A, east of the fault, points out three great series of interstratified black limestone beds, divided by two distinct beds of brown and white chert, as seen by the dotted lines at B and C. The position of the Black Marble Quarry is pointed out in the third or lowest black bed at G A. The two upper groups, and the greater part of the third, are not generally fit for ornamental purposes. They consist of a series of beds, varying from three to twenty inches in thickness, divided by thin seams of shale, and sometimes, though very rarely, of clay. Black chert frequently occurs interstratified with them. This is particularly the case in the best black, and it is sometimes found to traverse the centre of the bed. In some of these beds are found Ammonites, Goniatites, Natili, Ortheceratites, Turriculated and Turbinated Univalves, Hamites, Spiriferæ, Productæ, Fishes' Teeth and Palates, and sometimes, though rarely, Trilobites. Impressions of Vegetables are also sparingly found. One or two of the beds are literally full of the minute entrochite, when it forms a fine marble, called the Porphyritic, or Bird's Eye, manufactured into chimney-pieces, &c.

B—first brown beds, coarsely laminated, about fourteen feet thick, composed chiefly of brown and whitish chert. (China Stone. See the Gem, page 157, and note.) These contain very few organic remains; but a bed, resting imme-

diately on them, is filled with comminuted shells.

C—second brown beds, about seven feet thick, of a similar character to the first, with no organic remains, except in the lowest member, which contains the Pleurotomaria, a small univalve. On the west side of the fault, at D, is the Rosewood Marble bed.—Cut off by the fault, it is again visible at D on the east side. It is finely laminated, susceptible of a high polish, and beautifully figured. Some fine columns, made of this marble, are in Chatsworth. It is worked up into chimney-pieces, tables, vases, &c. Thickness from twelve to eighteen inches. It contains no organic remains.

H—Harrack vein and fault. The magnitude of the fault is from sixty to eighty feet; that is, the strata have been displaced from their original position, most likely by volcanic

forces, to that extent.

For a particular account of the Black Marble Quarry, we must beg to refer the reader to the Gem, pages 156 and 157.

BRIEF REMARKS

ON THE

GEOLOGY OF DERBYSHIRE,

AND

A CATALOGUE

OF THE

ROCKS, MARBLES, AND MINERALS OF THE COUNTY,

AND PART OF THE ADJOINING DISTRICT OF STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE Geology of Derbyshire has for a long time baffled the researches of some of the ablest inquirers into this science, from the broken and disrupted state of its limestone beds, including the Trap or Toadstone, respecting which many practical miners still maintain that there are two, or even three general beds of the latter; while, on the other hand, Mr. Hopkins, who, some time ago, and with much patience and ability, examined this district, infers that there is but one regular bed; supposing the whole of the phenomena indicative of more than one, to arise from faults and dislocations of the strata. But there is no question that two beds exist in some places, as, for instance, in the High Tor, the author discovered two-one clearly developed beneath the third or lowest limestone bed. This view of the question, after much inquiry and considerable attention for some years to the subject, the author adopts, and consequently the following arrangement of the carboniferous measures will accord with that view. And we shall invert the general order of proceeding, and follow the ascending series, beginning with the lowest bed, and remark very briefly on each group in succession as it appears to the day, or in other words, as the measures basset out and are seen on the surface.

CARBONIFEROUS GROUP-FIRST DERBYSHIRE ORDER.

The first limestone bed is generally of a greyish colour, very hard, compact, and subcrystalline, the veins of lead

sometimes very strong (or rich). In this bed fossil shells are found more sparingly with corallines than in the upper beds above the first toadstone. This bed, which is strongly developed under the High Tor, has seldom been cut through; therefore its general thickness is unknown. The old Red Sandstone (generally grouped with this series) is presumed to be the substratum. But in Derbyshire it nowhere appears. These enormous beds are divided by thin partings of clay, like the upper measures, from one to two inches thick each. The cross fractures and veins, filled with compact calc. spar, or crystallized in the form of the Scalon Dodecahedron (Dog Tooth Spar), which exists in magnificent crystals, being generally singularly grouped or aggregated, and often inclosing iron or copper pyrites.

BASALTIC BED.

Trap or Toadstone (the first bed) is the next or overlaying bed; respecting which, as already stated, there has been so much dispute. From a recent examination of this subject, the author now feels perfectly satisfied as to the existence of two beds in some places. Of the igneous origin of the toadstone there can be no doubt; its entire character evinces It forms one vast compact mass, varying much in thickness from twenty to sixty feet only cracked or broken transverseley, probably by the contraction of the mass in cooling; and these cracks are filled generally with white or reddish coloured calc. spar (Carbonate of Lime) and actinolite. In other cases it is porous or cellular, the cells frequently filled with calcareous spar, which, from their oblong or almond-like form, obtain for this the name of Amygdaloid. In the latter case, when the cells are empty, it much resembles scoria from the smelting furnace. In general it is extremely hard and compact, of a dirty dark bottle-green colour, tinged with a dirty yellow; hence the ill-savoured name of Toadstone. Now and then it appears, as they locally term it, blistered; then it separates into thin concentric layers, which are at times highly ferruginous. It is extremely liable to decompose whenever exposed to the weather, and then it breaks up into something like minute columnar masses, analagous to the basaltic columns. When perfectly decomposed, it forms a very fine clay. It has for some feet in depth materially affected the limestone bed on which it rests, which assumes a slaty structure, and is of a bright light green colour, with thin seams of iron pyrites, which are intersected by calc. spar veins, Sometimes the pyrites are diffused throughout the mass in minute crystals; there often occurs a yellow clay about a foot thick, separating the two beds. A similar clay divides it from the upper measures. In this clay thin strings of lead ore have been found,* but in every instance yet discovered the general bed cuts off every appearance of a vein of ore. Thin seams or veins of fibrous Limestone occur in this measure, as also Quartz crystals, or the Buxton diamonds. These are found to line the cavities. Under the High Tor specimens of Toadstone have been found coated by Chalcedony and Red Jaspar, both stalactitic and reniform, frequently tufacious, and approaching to Fiorite or Pearlsinter. The basset of the Toadstone may be easily detected by its sterility and dark dirty colour.

SECOND SERIES OF LIMESTONE BEDS.

These we shall divide into two—the lowest of this series, resting on the Toadstone, is usually termed the white stone, and is divided by three clays, varying from three to twelve inches thick. These beds are more distinctly stratified than what we have termed the first limestone, and vary much in colour, from a dark and light grey to a yellowish dun or cream colour, also bluish, and sometimes dark blue. In these beds abundance of fossil shells and corallines exist. In the "Dun" or Magnesian Limestone (which is strongly developed, overlying the Toadstone at Matlock Bath, Middleton Moor, Winster, &c.) are found impressions like marine plants, but which are merely ramified oxide of iron. This measure is of a cream colour, extremely hard and porous, and of a granular texture.—It is not of universal extent.+ The more general bed is a compact Limestone, which perhaps passes into the Dunstone; probably by the partial destruction of the former through the percolation of water, being liable to decomposition from the quantity of magnesia it contains. A thin seam of coal was found in the north

^{*} In a Mine lately opened at Ember Lane, a "double rib" of ore has been found in the clay, filling a fissure which traverses (it is said) the Toadstone in the direction of Masson Low.

⁺ The Botryoidal Magnesian Limestone has been lately found in this measure; the balls often singularly aggregated, and sometimes attached in twos, like chain-shot, but more frequently in single balls and pear-like masses.

tunnel of the High Tor. The whole of these series are full of veins, and have been extensively worked for lead ore and calamine, but principally the former. They abound with fluor, calc. spars, and caulk; but with the exception of the Hopton Stone, are not available for ornamental purposes. The usual thickness of these beds is about thirty fathoms, or one hundred and eighty feet.

THIRD OR UPPER SERIES-CHERT AND LIMESTONE SHALE BEDS.

This group forms an almost innumerable series of interstratified beds, very frequently passing into each other, from an inch each in thickness to many yards, abounding with subordinate beds full of organic remains, and affording some of the most beautiful marbles in existence. It varies materially in different situations in the character, depth, and extent of its beds. In one place the shale, the black, and the rosewood marbles prevail, with their interlying seams of shale and black chert. In others, thin beds of chert and shale are interstratified with other grey, brown, and blue granular limestones, reddish and grey entrochal, and dark coralloid marbles. In others these measures wholly disappear, being carried off by denuding causes. Thin seams of coal and clay also occur. The upper members of this series are generally much broken and ratchilly, the chert occurring in nodules somewhat analogous to the flints in the chalk. In these measures the chert often forms a bed of white or greyish colour, from four to six feet thick (see p. 157, and note), and is then called China Stone, from being used in the manufacture of that beautiful article. Basanite, a kind of black Jaspar, or primitive flinty slate, occurs here in thin seams or nodules. This series have been worked successfully for lead ore, and abound with a great variety of minerals; the average thickness may be stated at twenty-five fathoms, or one hundred and fifty feet.*

THE GREAT SHALE OR SHIVER BED, intervening between the grit and these, occurs in great force, being sometimes one hundred and fifty yards thick. It contains fossil pinus or

^{*} The fossils which usually prevail are, Madrepores, Entrochites, Orthoceratites, Ammonites, Spirifers, and Producta (these last occur in abundance). Sauroid Fishes are said to have been found in the Black Marble Ochres and Conglomerates occur in these measures. A fine specimen of the Tubipora Catenatus, with the cells partly filled with crystallized Lead Ore, was found in the Botstone Mine, Staffordshire. It is now in the Manchester Museum, and is of rare occurrence.

fruit, but no animal remains. Nodules of ironstone and slight quantities of sulphur are found in it. Chalybeate Springs, strongly impregnated, issue from it. At the Moot Hall Mine it has been cut through a considerable depth and found rich in lead ore, but this is a rare circumstance. As our limits forbid us entering at any length into these particulars, we shall proceed at once to give an arranged List of the Series, with their subordinates and mineral contents.

CATALOGUE.

First or Lowest Limestone Bed.—Grey of various shades, and sub-crystalline.

MADREPORITE MARBLE.

TRAP OR TOADSTONE, of a dark green or yellowish colour, compact and granular, sometimes with veins of Calc. Spar.

COLUMNAR TRAP.

AMYGDALOID, containing oval concretions of white Calc. Spar.

AMYGDALOID, in decomposition, in which case the calc.

spar acquires a greenish tinge.

VESICULAR OF CELLULAR TRAP, like the lava from Iceland, or the scoria of metals.

TRAP, green stone, structure slaty, with iron pyrites and calc. veins.

SECOND LIMESTONE GROUP.

MAGNESIAN LIMESTONE (or Dunstone), colour generally yellow, hard, and porous, frequently becomes arenacious by decomposition, with some slight traces of ramified oxide of iron.

COMPACT GREY OF WHITE LIMESTONE.

HOPTON STONE, a light dun-coloured stone, soft and easily worked; it is made into slabs for paving, common chimney-pieces, vases for fountains, &c., &c. Sometimes full of shells.

UPPER OR THIRD GROUP.

Limestone.—Structure slaty, granular, and sometimes fine grained: colour grey, blue, brown, red, and black.

CHERT.—A silicious or flinty substance: colour grey,

whitish and black, sometimes partly decomposed.

CHERT.—Brown, with entrochites (Screwstone); this is sometimes used by the Millers for "Bhurr-stone," instead of the French Bhurrs.

BASANITE, a kind of black Jasper (primitive flinty slate). It occurs nodular and in thin slaty seams, chiefly in the black marble beds, fracture conchoidal and lustre resinous: Cromford and Ashford.

SUBORDINATE BEDS

Of Marbles, &c., which take a high polish, and are extensively used for chimney-pieces and other ornamental purposes.

BLACK MARBLE—Fine grained and laminated; sometimes with white calc. veins and minute shells, entrochites, nau-

tili. &c.

Rosewood Do.—A silicious limestone, very hard and compact, the colours approximating to that of rosewood—hence the name.

CORALLOID Do.—Generally of a dark grey colour, though often light grey: when dark and the figures small, it is beautiful—bed limited, occurring in mere patches, generally in the upper measures.

MADREPORITE MARBLE—Frequently cherty, and then not workable—occurs in small patches: Middle Peak, Castle-

ton, &c. This is the basalti-form madrepore.

ENTROCHAL OF ENTROCHI MARBLE—Colour grey, reddish brown, and blackish: structure granular and slaty. It is raised in immense slabs, from three to eighteen inches thick. The entrochite, or figures, sometimes very minute, in a dark variety (bird's eye, or porphyritic marble), and in others from three to eighteen inches long, extensively used, frequently crowded with entrochites, and very beautiful: Monyash, Middle Peak, &c., &c.

RED MARBLE, "Rosso Moderno," highly ferruginous, and at times cherty, or pinny, as the workmen term it. It occurs of a fine bright red colour, granular and laminated, never raised larger than eighteen inches square, and from one to four inches thick, often passes into iron stone: Harting-

ton, &c.

CONGLOMERATES.

Brecciated Marbles, or Limestone Breccia, occur of every colour, as red, brown, yellow, and grey, and only found in brakes, dislocations, or fissures, in extremely limited quantities compared with the other marbles: Newhaven, &c.

Beautiful varieties of the above occur veined and dendritic, also of a fine bright colour, with red spots (Heliotrope marble); in fact, the varieties of these fancy marbles are endless, many of them when highly ferruginous are used in the colourworks, being ground down for pigments: Newhaven and Cold Eaton Dales, &c.

DENDRITIC MARBLE.—Yellowish brown, with dark veins.
Moss Jaspar Marble.—Semi-transparent and moss-like,
of a reddish brown colour, sometimes containing lead ore.

LIMESTONE SHALE.—Bituminous, colour dull and dark brown, or black, finely laminated.

MINERAL CONTENTS OCCURRING IN VEINS, FISSURES, ETC.
IN THE LIMESTONE.—ORES OF LEAD.

SULPHURET OF LEAD .- Lead and sulphur.

FOLIATED LEAD ORE.—Massive, presenting a leafy or bladelike fracture when broken in any direction: surface extremely brilliant.

STEEL-GRAINED LEAD ORE.—Sometimes granular.

Do.—Crystallized in Cubes and Octahedrons, the crystals variously modified—often associated with calc. and fluor spar.

Do.—Veined with cauk or sulphate of Barytes, and sometimes limestone.

Do.—Veined with fluor and calc. spar, when cut and polished the grouping of the materials is often remarkably

singular.

SLICKENSIDE.—A sulphuret of Lead on calc. spar, perfectly smooth, occurring on the sides of veins. When first struck by the miner's pick, it often explodes with great force, and then it is highly dangerous.* Odin Mine, &c.

WHITE LEAD ORE, a Carbonate of Lead of a dull colour, massive; sometimes it is found minutely crystallized on octahedral lead. Hubbadale Mine, near Bakewell. It is found finely crystallized in prisms, as a sulphate, on Brassington Moor, and at Crich.

PHOSPHATE OF LEAD occurs sparingly, colour bright pea-

[•] The cause of the production of this remarkable form of the Lead has, no doubt, arisen from a slip or movement of the strata, crushing by their action one upon the other, the Mineral contents of the vein, and reducing the lead to a thin polished plate on its surface. The intense heat generated by the motion of such vast masses (expanding the air in its pores) may account for its exploding when broken into, similar to lumps of glass when suddenly cooled, which explode on being scratched or slightly broken.

green, yellow, and brown, the former sometimes found beautifully crystallized: Bonsall Moor and Brassington.

ZINC ORES.

SULPHURET OF ZING (Mock Ore) is found in small quantities, associated with other minerals: such as calc. and fluor

spar.

Carbonate of Zinc.—Calamine occurs stalactitic, reniform and beautifully crystallized in transparent quadrilateral tables, elegantly grouped; sometimes a dull brown variety occurs, coating calc. or dog-tooth spar, the crystals of which it in time destroys, leaving only the thin superficial coating of metal, which, when broken, is in consequence found hollow; Cumberland Cavern, old Nestor Mine, and elsewhere.

CUPRIFEROUS CALAMINE, in beautiful green, diverging spheroidal tufts, on common calamine and calc. spar: Rut-

land Cavern.

SILICIOUS OXIDE OF ZINC, crystallized and stalactitic, somewhat similar to the carbonate, occurs associated with cadmiferous calamine, which is radiated of a greenish colour: Rutland and Cumberland Caverns.

IRON ORES .- SULPHURETS.

IRON PYRITES occurs massive and crystallized, in cubes and tetrahedrons of a yellow colour; sometimes brilliantly irridescent, often imbedded in fluor spar. It is a sulphuret of iron, and is found generally

Do., crystallized in cubes and massive, in flat pieces with

fluor spar.

Do., in tetrahedrons variously modified, also aggregated in stalactitic masses, assuming the most extraordinary forms—fracture, divergent—colour, yellow and irridescent: Botstone Mine, Staffordshire.

COCKSCOMB PYRITES is nearly tin-white, crystallized, in modified rhombic prisms, aggregated, divergent, or stellular, with fluor spar, &c., often imbedded: Ashover, &c.

RED OXIDE of IRON, (Hæmatites and Jaspberry iron ores

are also found): Parwich, and End Low.*

CRYSTALLIZED OXIDE OF IRON. End Low.

UMBER, a dark, dull oxide of iron, from the shale of Elton.

^{*} Immense quantities of this ore are found here, and preferred at the Codnor Park Iron Works to the Clay iron stone, as yielding a greater per centage, about 75 in the 100.

ROTTEN STONE, often with a variety of the trilobite imbedded.

COPPER ORES.

COPPER PYRITES (Sulphuret of Copper), crystallized in tetrahedrons, or coating cauk, or dog-tooth spar: Ecton Mine, Staffordshire.

EARTHY BLUE and GREEN CARBONATE of COPPER, with calc. spar, and sometimes with a brown oxide of copper: Middleton and Hopton.

FIBROUS GREEN CARBONATE of COPPER; this is found coating a grey sulphuret of Copper, in a mine at Wensley.

BLACK OXIDE OF MANGANESE is found as a thin seam in the clay beds and yellow ochres: it is generally pulverulent or friable, rarely compact—it is also called black wad: Balleye, Bonsall. In the shale at Elton, it occurs in compact amorphous masses, sometimes fibrous, associated with Zeolite. One variety occurs in a mine near Middleton, by Youlgreave, crystallized, in flattish prisms, sometimes radiated, or reniform. This substance is the colouring matter of the fluor spar, and the sole cause of its beauty.

FLUOR SPAR.

FLUATE of LIME. (Lime and Fluoric Acid)—This forms a most beautiful family, and is nowhere found workable but in this county. It occurs nodular in clay, sometimes in flat lumps, striated, massive, and crystallized, of every colour and shade, but chiefly blue and yellow. This last forms the matrix of the richest vein of lead ore found in the county (Gloria Mine, Crich Cliff). It is extremely fragile or brittle, being fractured in all directions; hence the term spar or sparry, notwithstanding it is worked into the most delicate forms by the skill of the workmen. The colours are extremely brilliant and beautiful.

BLUE FLUOR SPAR. (Blue John)—Structure prismatic, or striated: Castleton.

POLISHED, Do.

AMETHYSTINE* FLUOR SPAR.—This is sometimes called Bull-beef. The veins of this variety, six or seven in number, are extremely beautiful: Castleton.

^{*} A variety of this, called the "dice spar," exhibits when worked, triangular configurations, and the play or irridescency of the colours are extremely vivid and beautiful. A yellow or grey variety of this also occurs.

WHITE OR CLEAR FLUOR SPAR, with one delicate blue vein, sometimes coated with carbonate of copper: Castleton.

EARTHY BLUE, Do.—Compact and friable; sometimes crystallized in beautiful cubes: Ball-eye, Bonsall, &c.

YELLOW, Do.—Massive, and in cubes, sometimes beautifully irridescent, and when polished, called moss spar, frequently found with lead ore. Crich Cliff, &c.

YELLOW, GREY, and BLUE FLUOR SPAR, with cauk:

Bradwell Spar.

TRANSPARENT, Do.—Crystallized in cubes, with Iron Pyrites, seen embedded coating the enclosed crystals, very beautiful: Matlock and Ashover.

CALCAREOUS SPAR .- Carbonate of Lime.

Dog-Tooth Spar, with double hexagonal pyramids,* occurs amber coloured, but generally clear and transparent (scalon dodecohedron), frequently aggregated in immense masses, and sometimes coated with copper pyrites: (Ecton Mine, Staffordshire). It occurs in great quantities throughout Derbyshire; the modifications of this crystal are exceedingly numerous.

RHOMBOIDAL, Do.—When transparent, it is double refracting, like the Iceland spar. It occurs white and opaque, in

thick seams in the limestone.

RHOMBOIDAL SPAR, with copper pyrites embedded: Ecton

Mine, Staffordshire.

FIBROUS OR STRIATED CARBONATE OF LIME.—Colour pinkish; the structure is similar to the Satin spar, of Cumberland: Speedwell Mine, Matlock Bath, and in the Toadstone of Ember Lane, &c.

STALACTITES.

These are also carbonates of lime, but of more recent formation, and the product of every period. Their formation is still rapidly proceeding in many places, by the percolation of water through the limestone beds, carrying with it particles of lime in solution, which is deposited on the roofs and sides of caverns and mines, by the evaporation of the water and escape of the excess of the carbonic

These pyramids, when broken, are found to be composed of Rhombic crystals (primitive Rhomb), the line of cleavage of which is sometimes distinctly visible in the larger ones. If broken into millions of fragments, each particle would be found to retain the form of the original Rhomb. The clear are beautifully and powerfully double refracting.

acid gas. Their structure is massive, granular, and radiated. Suspended from the roofs of caverns in conical and spiral masses (sometimes hollow), found from the most delicate quill size to the gigantic pillar, reaching the floor and supporting the massive roof, or hanging in exquisite folds like drapery on the sides, and are of every colour and variety of shade, from the purest transparent and milky white to dark brown, often interlineated like agate. The stalagmites are mammillated, and exhibit concentric rings of different colours when cut, but they often occur flat and even laminated on the floors of mines and caverns.

COMMON STALACTITE.—Compact, striated, or ribbed. Mid-

dleton Moor, and generally in the limestone.

Do.—Hollow, pipe-like, or tubular. Castleton and Bradwell Caves, &c.

WHITE Do.—Transparent, veined, and milky white (oriental alabaster): Hopton Moor.

Ribbon Do.—(Bacon Stone.)—Brown and dirty whitish bands: Newhaven.

STALAGMITE.—It occurs mammillated and Botryoidal; more frequently massive with a granular structure.

WAVED DO.—A beautiful variety (rare): Wirksworth.

GREEN ARRAGONITE.—Coloured by green or blue carbo-

nate of copper, which is sometimes found in it. Hopton Moor.

Arragonite.—Botryoidal and mammillated on Magnesian

limestone (snow fossil): Cumberland Cavern, &c.

Selenite.—Sulphate of Lime, locally termed snow fossil, as the preceding, but distinguished by its being much softer and by the brilliancy of its crystals; it is crystallized in flat octahedrons, or in delicate four-sided prisms, then called capillary gypsum or hair fossil, transparent, but crumbles to pieces by the slightest touch: both the last in Cumberland Cavern.

BARYTIC FAMILY.

Barium (Terra ponderosa), a sulphate of Barytes, is found abundantly in Derbyshire, often forming the matrix of the richest lead veins, of a dull earthy white or yellowish colour. It occurs massive and *Botryoidal*, or in fibrous tufts radiated, and sometimes crystallized in thin folia or tabulated crystals. The massive white (cauk) is extensively used as a pigment, under the name of Dutch Lead, being washed and ground down at various mills for this purpose.

WHITE OR YELLOWISH SULPHATE OF BARYTES.—Massive and Botryoidal: found generally.

RAMOSE OR ARBORESCENT Do.—Colour whitish, with brown earthy oxide of iron (Brain-stone): Bonsall Moor, &c.

FOLIATED Do.—In flat rhomboidal tables, singularly grouped and some transparent: occurring in a loose red earth in the limestone: Staffordshire.

Do.-Striated.

PINK Do.-Coloured by oxide of iron: Ashover.

Do. do.—Striped or veined with earthy blue fluor spar: Crich.

CALCIFEROUS Do.—Radiated and stalactitic, colour brown, or dark reddish brown; it takes a high polish, and then presents a great variety of configurations (Onyx-stone), and is

manufactured into various fancy articles.

The transverse section of the stalactite is beautifully radiated with concentric rings. This peculiar mineral is only found in one place, and first in the year 1832, in a cross vein in the Dunstone, embedded in clay on "Arbellow:" Middleton by Youlgreave. It contains about twenty per cent, of lime and four of oxide of iron.

SILICIOUS BODIES.

QUARTZ occurs crystallized in six-sided pyramids on lime-

stone: Ashover, Matlock, &c.

Do. in detached crystals in hexagonal prisms, with double hexagonal pyramids: (Buxton or Derbyshire Diamond). Some are very small and perfectly transparent, others highly ferruginous or of a Topazine colour. They scratch glass easily: Buxton, Priesteliff, Winster, &c.

MILLSTONE GRIT AND SHALE;

SECOND DERBYSHIRE ORDER.

These measures form some of the highest and most sterile tracts in the county, the grit frequently covered with a fine purple heath (Erica vulgaris and cinerea), the shale "with bluish sedgy pastures." The grit is generally found under the form of a coarse-grained sandstone, and is raised in immense blocks;* but it is sometimes highly feldspaothic and micacious when it becomes finely laminated, and raised in

^{*} Huge blocks of this stone have been quarried and formed into pillars, for the Birmingham Railway Station, and now for St. George's Hall, Liverpool, from a quarry in Darley Dale.

thin plates for roofing-slates, &c. It is usually of a brown or yellow colour, the fine grained varieties often beautifully figured with red and yellow bands, forming the most graceful flexures. Beds of shale alternate most frequently with the grit of a similar character to the one described.* Quartz, iron Pyrites, Bitumen, Asphalt, Petroleum, nodules of Ironstone, crystallized Barytes, and blue Lead Ore sometimes occur. Naphtha has been discovered occasionally.

On the preceding rest the coal measures, with their immense beds of ironstone and alternating measures of shale and sandstone, exhibiting in prodigious numbers the beautiful floral productions of a preceding state of things. Lead has sometimes, though rarely, been found in the coal, but iron Pyrites exist in abundance. Septaria and Muscle Ironstone are frequently found. We have grouped these with the former, and shall now give the list together.

MILLSTONE GRIT.—Coarse grained and at times pebbly. MICACIOUS do. do. - Variegated and finely laminated.

BITUMINOUS SHALE .- Laminated: slaty.

ARGILLACEOUS GRIT.

ELASTIC BITUMEN.—Mam Tor, Castleton.

INDURATED do.

Asphalt.—Compact Bitumen, sometimes tubular: colour brownish black.

Muscle Shell Ironstone.—The Myæ ovalis embedded: near Chesterfield.

Do. do. with vegetable impressions.

CLAY IRONSTONE WITH CALC. VEINS.—Septaria or Turtle-

COAL .- Vitreous and irridescent, sometimes hard and slaty. +

SALIFEROUS FORMATION;

THIRD DERBYSHIRE ORDER.

This group includes the new Red Sandstone, Red Marl, and Magnesian limestone measures, with their subordinates or Gypsum beds. It contains few organic remains. This order is developed in great force in the south and eastern divisions of the county, and presents a striking contrast to the preceding. Gentle knolls supply the place of the dark

^{*} Sometimes thin beds of indifferent coal are found in these measures. + The Coal of Bull-bridge is of the former class, and the Swanwick Hard of the latter. The coal-field of Derbyshire is amazingly productive, as the Ironworks of Butterley and Codnor Park evince.

gritstone crags, and beautiful interlineated beds of fine, red, green, and yellow sandstones and marls, that of the dark shale and sterile grits. The prevailin colours of the Magnesian bed are grey and yellow, frequently salmon colour. Structure compact and glistening, but often porous and con-glomerate, with concretional and botryoidal masses, varying from the size of a pea (Blidworth pearls) to that of a cannon ball. The beds at Bolsover are separated by thin seams of pipe-clay. It is sometimes found laminated and flexible at Sunderland.*

NEW RED SANDSTONE.—Green, red, and yellow.

RED MARL.—Earthy and dull, containing fibrous gypsum beds.

MAGNESIAN LIMESTONE.—Compact and botryoidal.

SUBORDINATE BEDS-SULPHATE OF LIME-PLASTER OF PARIS.

VARIEGATED GYPSUM.—Reddish brown and white.

PURE WHITE do.—Derbyshire alabaster: † Chellaston and Tutbury.

FIBROUS GYPSUM.—Beautifully silky and glistening: Red

Hill, Nottinghamshire.

These are worked into every kind of ornament, from the elegant necklace to the huge vase or column. Selenite in

large flat octahedral crystals occurs in these beds.

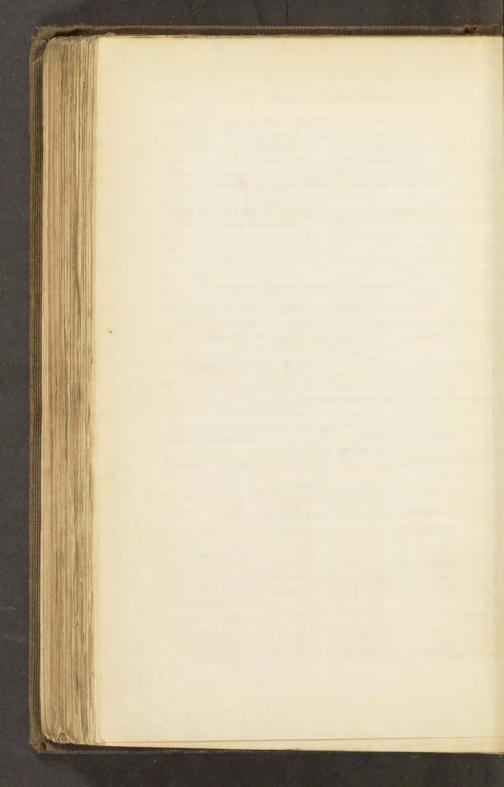
CALCAREOUS TUFA.—A recent formation occurs, generally of a loose porous nature, composed entirely of vegetable matter encrusted with lime. Sometimes it is coated with stalactite, and takes a polish; it often encloses shells-the common helix.

CALCAREOUS TUFA.—Ramose white and brown. Do. do.—Compact and yellowish, polished. Do. do.—Enclosing shells or recent fossils.

* Some years ago a slight vein of lead ore was found in the Magnesian Limestone, near Chesterfield; but it proved, as it might be expected, not

worth working.

† These beds form the common plaster of commerce used for castings. mouldings, &c. The most perfect varieties are admirably sculptured into the figures of animals, &c., at Hall's Spar and Marble Works, Derby, and by other parties.



LIST OF PLANTS

FOUND GROWING IN VARIOUS LOCALITIES NOTICED IN THE

PRECEDING PAGES.

CLASS I. MONANDRIA.

ORDER 1 .- MONOGYNIA.

Where found, &c.

Gardens and cultivated places.

Pastures, common. Waysides & waste places, com-

Sandy pastures.

Meadows and pastures,

Systematic name.

-annua

Festuca rubra,

Bromus sterilis, Hordeum pratense,

Briza media, Dactylis glomerata,

English name. Time of flower. Where found, &c. Com, mare's tail. June, July Ditches& ponds about Chatsw. Hippurus vulgaris CLASS II.—DIANDRIA. ORDER 1 .- MONOGYNI A. Privet,
Alpine Speedwell, July, Augt. Masson, Matlock Bath.
Thyme leaved do, May to July Road-sides and pastures, M.B.
Brooklime do.
Germander do.
May & June Roadsides & hedges, common.
May & June Roadsides & hedges, common. Ligustrum vulgare, Veronica alpina,
—— serpyllifolia, beccabunga. Chamædrys, Ivy-leaved do. Apl. to June Hedge banks, about Bakewell Alpine enchanter's Jun. & July Lovers' walk, Matlock Bath. - hederifolia, Circœa alpina, night-shade, Com. night-shade, Ditto Lesser duckweed, July - lutetiana, Common. Stagnant waters, common. Lemna minor, ORDER 2 .- DIGYNIA. Anthoxanthum odoratum, Sweet vernal grass. May&JuneMeadows and pastures, com. CLASS III.—TRIANDRIA. ORDER L .- MONOGYNIA. Great wild Valerian Jun. & Jul. Ditches and wet places, com. Com. corn salad, Apl. to Jun. Middleton Dale. Hare's tail cotton Apl. & May Dovedale, and near Ashford, Valeriana officinalis, Fedia olitoria, Eriophorum vaginatum, in wet places grass. - angustifolium, Common cotton gr. April Dovedale, and near Wirks. Broad-leaved do. Apl. to Jun. Dovedale, in swampy places. - polystachion, ORDER 2 .- DIGYNIA Alopecurus pratensis Mead. fox-tail gr. May & Jun. Meadows and pastures, com. June & Jul. Fields and roadsides, common. Slender do. -- agrestis. Phleum pratense, Timothy grass, June Pastures and roadsides, ditto. Brown bent grass, June & Jul. Moist places on Buxton Moors. Agrostis canina, Brown bent grace.

Creeping soft gr. July

Pastures and neuges.

Lymeadows, everywhere com.

Lymeadows and woods, coi Holcus mollis, Pastures and hedges.common. Meadow grass, June & Smooth-stalked Ditto lanatus, Poa pratensis, In meadows and woods, com.

meadow grass, Annual ditto.

Meadow barley,

Com. quaking gr. Ditto Cock's-foot grass, July Creeping fescuegr. Ditto

Ditto

July

Barren-brome gr. June & Jul. Waste grounds, common.

Systematic name.
Triticum repens,
Lolium perenne,
Phleum pratense,

Montia fontana.

English name. Time of flower. Where found, &c.

Couch-grass, Rye-grass, July Everywhere common.

Cat's-tail-grass, July Meadows & pastures, common.

ORDER 3.—TRIGYNIA.

Water chickweed, June & July Springy and wet places, plentiful everywhere.

CLASS IV .- TETRANDRIA.

ORDER I .- MONOGYNIA.

Scabiosa succisa,
— columbaria,
Galium verum,
— cruciatum,
— saxatile,
— pusillum,

Asperula odorata,
Plantago major, *
— media,
— lanceolato,
Parietaria officinalis,
Alchemilla vulgaris,
— aphanes,
Sanguisorba officinalis,

Devil's-bit scabi. July & Aug. Meadows & pastures, M. Bath. Small ditto, Ditto Heights of Dovedale. Yellow bed-straw, Ditto Dry Banks, &c. Cross-wort ditto, May & June Common. Smooth heath do. June to Aug. Taddington Dale, plentiful. Least mountn. do. July & Aug., Beeton Rod, near Hassop, Matlock Bath, Middleton Da. &c. Sweet wood-ruff, May & June Woods, abundant.

Great plantain, Hoary ditto, Ditto Ditto ditto.

Ribwort ditto, Ditto Meadows and pastures, com.

Pelitory of wall, Summer mo. Old wall.

Ribwort dite.

Pelitory of wall, Summer mo. Old wall.

Com.ladies mantle June & July Lathkiln Dale & other places.

Parsley-piert, Ap. to June Hill sides above Baslow, &c.

Great Burnet, Ditto Middleton Dale and Buxton.

ORDER 2.-DIGYNIA. ORDER 3.-TETRAGYNIA

wood looked pand June & July Band

Broad leaved pond-June & July Ponds, weed, Curled ditto, June & July In River Wye, plentiful. Spear-leaved do. July & Aug. Near Derby, in ponds. Procumbent pearl-May to Aug. Waste places, frequent.

CLASS V .- PENTANDRIA.

wort.

ORDER I .- MONOGYNIA.

Verbaseum thapsus,
nigrum,
lychnites,
blattaria,
Convolvulus arvensis,
sepium,
Polemonium cœruleum,

Vinca minor,

—— major,

Campanula latifolia,

rotundifolia,

____ glomerata,

Claytonia alsinoides,

Wood scorpion gr. Sum. mo. Matlock Bath.
Field scorpion gr. June to Aug. Corn-fields, abundant.
Yellow & blue do. April&June Wet meadows, frequent.
Com.houndstong. June & July Matlock Bath, and Ashover.
Wood loosestrife, Sum. mon. Stand-wood, Chatsworth.
Com. primrose, April & May Woods and hedge banks, com.
Common cowslip. Ditto Meadows and pastures, com.
Woody nightshade-June & July Moist hedge-banks in Darley
Dale.
Great mullein, July & Aug. Matlock, and Middleton Dale.
Dark mullein, June Haddon Hall, rare.
Moth mullein, Moth mullein, Small bindweed, July & Aug. Woods and old gardens, com.

Com. gromwell, June Matlock. Common comfrey, May & June Woods, Chatsworth, common. Wood scorpion gr. Sum. mo. Matlock Bath.

Greek valerian, June
Lesser periwinkle, May
Great ditto.
Ditto
Lover's leap, Buxton and Matlock Bath.
Matlock Bath, Inear Ashbourne and Ilam.
Malock Bath, Ilam, and Pleas-

Great ditto, Ditto Matlock Bath, Ilam, and Pleasley Park.
Giant bell flower, August Dovedale, Matlock, & Rowsley.
Round-leaved do. July to Sep. Matlock Bath, Dale Abbey,

Round-leaved do. July to Sep. Matlock Bath, Dale Abbey, and Chee Tor. Clustered ditto, July to Aug. Haddon Hall and Baslow, by

the Derwent.
In woods on the west side of Chatsworth Park, rare.

^{*} Plantage major is one of the commonest plants growing wild in Derbyshire,

Systematic name.
Campanuala trachelium,
Lonicera periclymenum,
Viola hirta,
—— lutea,

Chenopodium bonus Henric. Good Henry

 odorata,
canina, a Helix

Lit

English name. Time of flower. Where found, &c. Nettle-leaved, do. Ditto Matlock Bath. Com. honey suckle, Jun. to Oct. Woods and hedges, frequent. Hairy violet. Yellow mountain violet, Sweet violet, Dog violet, Common ivy, Oct. & Nov. Rocks about Buxton and Mat.

ORDER 2 .- DIGYNIA.

Gentiana Amarella,	Autumn gentian,	Jun. to Sep. Matlock Bath, and Beeton Rod,
		Hassop.
Sanienla Europea	Wood sanicle	May & Jun Wood near Hasson

Sanicula Europea,	Wood sanicle	May & Ju	n. Wood near	Hasso
Bunium flexuosum,	Com. earth nut	Ditto.	Woods.	
Heraclium sphondylium,	Cow-parsnep, or	July	Ditto.	

	nog-weeu,	
Scandix pecten,	Shepherd's needle.	Jun. & July Corn-fields, anywhere.
Daucus carota,	Wild carrot,	July Bakewell, & Cliff house, Baslow.
Chærophyllum temulentum.	Rough chervil,	Jun. & July Hedges about Chatsworth.
Myrrhis odorata,	Sweet cicely,	May & Jun. Plentiful on the Banks of the
Co.		Derwent &c.

ORDER 3.-TIGYNIA.

August

Roadsides.

Sambucus niger,	Common elder	Jun. & July Woods and hedges, frequent.
	ORDER 4T	ETRAGYNIA.

	ORDER 5,-1	PENTAGYNIA.	
num catharticum,	Purging flax,	Jun. & July Common in pastures.	

	ORDER 6,-HEAAGINIA.	
Drosera rotundifolia,	Round-leaved sun- July & Aug dew,	Aabney Moor, East Mcor, and on Moors near Buxton, in

longifolia, Long-leaved, July & Aug. Ditto.

CLASS VI.—HEXANDRIA. ORDER 1.—MONOGYNIA.

Galanthus nivalis, Narcissus pseudo-narcissus,		Wood, near Wirksworth. Covers a whole meadow near
The second secon		Lea Wood, near Mat. Bath.

The same and	-		Lea Wood, near Mat. Bath.
Gagea lutea,	Yellow gagea,	Ditto	Haddon.
Convallaria majalis,	Lily of the valley,	May	Dovedale and Via Gellia.
Allium vineale,	Crow garlic,	June	Matlock Bath, plentiful.
ursinum.	Broad-leaved garli	icDitto	Banks of Derw, below Baslow.
Hyacinthus non-scriptus,	Wild hyacinth, or blue bell,	May	Plentiful in woods.
Juneus conglomeratus.	Common rush	July	Marshy grounds, any where.
Luzula sylvatica,	Great hairy wood-	May & Jun.	Woods and hilly, places, com.

campestris,	Field wood-rush,	Ap. to May I	Ory pastures,	Matlock	Bath
	ORDER 2	DIGYNIA.			

Oxyra reniformis,	Kidney-shaped, mountain sorre	Jun. to Au. Beeley Moor

ORDER 3 .- TETRAGYNIA.

		Meadows and pastures, com. Moors and pastures, common.
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BOTANY.

Systematic name.	English name. ORDER 4.—1		lower. Where found, &c.
Actinocarpus damasoniu			
	ORDER	POLYGINI	Α,
Alisma plantago,	Great water plan	1- July	Ditches and wet places about Derby.
	CLASS VIII	OCTAN	DRIA.
	ORDER '	MONOGYN	IA.
Erica tetralix, — cinerea, Calluna vulgaris, Vaccinium myrtillus, — vitis idæa,	Fine-leaved heath	ı, Ditto,	ug. The Moors, very abundant. Ditto, Ditto, ug.Ditto, Ditto. Cromford woods, &c., plentiful un.Beeley Moor and East Moor com., top of Sir Will., Eyam Ditto, and in boggy places.
	Willow herb, Great hairy ditto, Alpine ditto, Pale sm. leaved do Narrow-leaved marsh willow	July, Ditto, Ditto,	Ditto, and in boggy places. Matlock and Darley Dale. Sides of Wye abt. Ashford, &c In Yelt-Wood, Baslow. Haddon, &c. Ditches, common.
Daphne mezereum, —— laureola,	herb. Common mezereo Spurge laureI,	n, March, Ditto,	Matlock and Chee Tor, rare, Matlock, Hardwick, &c.
	ORDER 2	-DIGYNIA	
Polygonum viviparum,	Viviparous alpine bistort.	June,	Pastures, Eyam-edge.
aviculare,	Knot-grass,	May to S	ep.Roadsides & cultivated places
amphibium,	Amphibius persic- aria.	Jul. & A	ug. Ponds and ditches, frequent.
	ORDER 3T	ETRAGYN	IA.
Paris quadrifolia,	Com. herb Paris, or True love.	May & J	un. Matlock and Taddington Dale
Adoxa moschatellina,	Moschatell,	Ap. & M.	ay. Woods & hedge-banks, com.
	CLASS IXE	ENNEAN	DRA.
	ORDER I	HEXANDRI	IA.
Butomus umbellatus,	Flowering rush,	Jun. & Ju plant in	ly, We have not met with thi a wild state in Derbyshire.
	CLASS X I	ECAND	RIA.
	ORDERM	IONOGYN	IA.
Pyrola rotundifolia,		July to Se	p. Lady-Wash-Mine, Eyam.
Andromeda polyfolia,	ter green. Marsh Andromeda,	June	Between Buxton and Cat an Fiddle Inn.
	ORDER 2	-DIGYNIA	
Chrysoplenium alternifoli	Golden saxifrage, I or alternate leaved.	Mar. & Ap.	Darley, road to Bonsall, and in St. Mary's Wood, Baslow.
oppositifolium	Opposite leaved do.	Ditto,	Back of New Bath, waterfalls
Saxifraga granulata, hypnoides,	Meadow saxifrage, Mossy saxifrage,	May & Jun May to Jul	plentiful. Top of Cliff, Middleton Dale, &c. Dovedale, Castleton, and Bux
tridactylites,	Rue-leaved, ditto,	Ditto,	ton common. Buxton, Baslow, Matlock, an on old limestone walls,
Dianthus deltoides,		May to Jun Jul. & Aug	. Castleton,

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ORDER 3.-TRIGYNIA,

	CALL DIE O'-	A ALLO I LYLLE			
Systematic name. Silene inflata, —— nutans,	English name. T Bladder campion, Jo Nottingham catch-Ji	'ime of flower un, to Au. M un, & Jul. D	r. Where found, &c. atlock, Middleton Dale, &c. ovedale, and Taddington Dale,		
Stellaria media, memorum,	fly. Com. stitchwort, wood ditto,	All the year	and near Ashford, rare. Roadsides & waste places,com. stand-Wood, Chatsworth, and Lindup-Wood, Rowsley.		
—— holostea, —— graminea, —— uliginosum, Arenaria verna,	Great ditto, Lesser ditto, Bog ditto, Vernal sandwort,	June	Ditto, ditto, frequent. Dry pastures and Moors, com. Ditches and rivulets, common. Middleton Dale, Buxton, and about the shafts of mines, Matlock Bath.		
trinervis, rubra,	Three-nerved do. Purple ditto,	May June	On old walls, near Hassop. Sides of road between Edensor and Bakewell, near Ballcross Wood.		
	ORDER 4PE	NTAGYNIA.	11 000.		
Cotyledon umbilicus, Sedum telephium,	Wall pennywort, Orpine, or live- long stonecrop,	June to Au.	Rocks in Stand-Wood, Chats. Dovedale,		
——————————————————————————————————————	Biting stonecrop, Thick leaved do. Com. wood sorrel, Corn cockle, Ragged Robin,	Ditto May	Middleton Dale, plentiful. On wall, near Dethic Hall. Plentiful. Corn-fields, frequent. Woods and moist hedge-banks,		
——— dioica,	Red or white cam-	May & June	common. Hedge-banks and grass-fields, common.		
Cerastium vulgatum,		Ap. to June	Fields and roadsides, common.		
Spergula arvensis,	Corn spurrey,	June to Au.	Found in any corn-field.		
	CLASS XIDO	DECAND	RIA.		
		MONOGYNI			
Asarum Europeum,		May	Rare, we have not met with it in a wild state.		
Agrimonia eupatoria.	Agrimony,		Road-sides between Matlock		
and Bonsall, & near Baslow. ORDER 3.—TRIGYNIA.					
Reseda luteola,	Dyer's rocket, or		Matlock and Middleton Dale.		
	yellow-weed,				
——— lutea,	Wild mignionette,				
Sempervivum tectorum,	Com. houseleek,		Housetops and walls, common.		
	CLASS XII.—IC	COSANDA	TA		
	ORDER 1.—N		575		
Dumine madue					
Prunus padus,		May	Chee Tor, Matlock, and be- tweenDovedale& Woodeaves.		
spinosa, cerassus,	Blackthorn, or sloe, Wild cherry, OKDERPE!	Ditto	Between Ashford and Buxton. Woods and hedges, frequent.		
Pyrus communis,			Woods and hedges, Mat. Bath.		
aria, malus,	White beam tree,	June	Matlock Bath.		
Spirea ulmaria,	Crab-apple, Meadow sweet,	July	Woods and hedges, common. In damp meadows.		
	ORDER 3.—PO	LYGYNIA.			
Rosa canina,	Common dog-rose,	June & July	Thickets and hedges about Matlock, Dovedale, &c.		
Rosa sabina, Rubus idœus,	Sabina rose, Raspberry (wild),	May & June	Between Baslow and Calver.		
	5	0			

Systematic name.	English name. Ti	me of flower.	Where found, &c.
Rubus fruticosus.	Blackberry,	July & Aug.	Common.
- saxatilis.	Stone bramble,	June	Matlock Bath, ditto.
chamæmorous,	Cloudberry,	Ditto	Kinderscout and Axe Edge.
Fragaria vesca,	Wood strawberry,	May to July	Woods and hedge-banks, Had don, Middleton Dale, &c.
Potentilla anserina,	Silver weed,	June & July	Meadows, Baslow, Hassop, &c
reptans,	Common creeping cinquefoil.	July to Au.	Middleton Dale, Calver, &c.
Tormentilla reptans,	Trailing tormentil,	Ditto	Hill-sides, frequent at Calver and Middleton Dale.
Geum rivale,	Water avens,	June & July	Banks of Derwent bel. Baslow
urbanum,	Common avens,	Ditto,	Road-sides between Hasso and Baslow.

CLASS XIII. POLYANDRIA.

ORDER 1 .- MONOGYNIA.

Papaver rhæas, - Chelidonium majus,	Com. red poppy, Com. celadine,		Corn-fields, abundant- In old wall at Cliff House, near
Helianthemum vulgare,	Rock rose,	July & Au.	Calver. Middleton-Dale, and M.Bath.
	ORDER 2.—PE	NTAGYNIA.	
Aquilegia vulgaris, Helleborus viridis,	Com. columbine, Green hellebore,		M. Bath, Haddon, & Buxton Woods about Rowsley, Chats worth, and Matlock Bath.
fœtidus,	Stinking ditto,	Mar.to April	Matlock Bath, Cromford, &c'
	ORDER 3P	OLYGYNIA.	
Thalictrum minus, Anemone nemorosa,	Meadow-rue, Wood anemone,	June & July April & May	Castleton, Woods about Chatsworth, Mat- lock, Calver, &c.
Ranunculus acris, aquatilis,	Meadow crowfoot, Water ditto,		Meadows & pastures, frequent. Ponds in Chatsworth Park, and in wet places frequent.
repens, bulbosus, arvensis.	Creeping ditto, Bulbous ditto,	May	Behind Robber's stone, Chats. Pastures about Haddon, &c.
lingua, flammula,	Common ditto, Great spear wort, Lesser ditto,	July & Aug. Ditto,	Corn-fields, plentiful. Cottage pond, Chatsworth. Ditto, ditto.
Caltha palustris,	Marsh marygold,	Mar.to;June	Plentiful in wet parts.

CLASS XIV .- DIDYNAMIA.

ORDER 1 .- ANGIOSPERMIA.

	OHEREN III	HOSTERMIN	
Mentha sylvestris, piperita,		Au. & Sep. Ditto	Haddon and Lindup-Wood, Bonsall Dale, ditto.
Thymus serpyllum, Teucrium scorodonia,	Wild-thyme, Wood-sage,	July & Au. July	Beeton Rod, Taddington, &c. Stand-Wood, &c.
Origanum vulgare,	Wild marjorum,	Ditto	High ground north of Bake- well and Middleton Dale.
Ajuga reptans, ——— alpina,	Common bugle, Alpine ditto,	May & June July	Stand-Wood, and Lindup do. Summit of Mountain near
Galeobdolon luteum,			Castleton. Yelt-Wood, Baslow, and Had-
Galeopsis tetrahit.	archangel,		don, &c.
			Corn-fields and cultivated grounds, frequent.
Lamium album, ————————————————————————————————————	White dead nettle, Spotted dead nettle	June & July Ditto	Woods about Chatsworth, freq. Ditto, near Calver and Cliff House.
Betonica officinalis,	Red dead nettle, Wood-betony,		Fields and cult. grounds, com.
Stachys sylvatica,	Hedge-woundwort,	Ditto	
Glechoma hederacea, Acinos vulgaris,	Ground-ivy, Basil thyme,	April & May August	Ditto, ditto.
Prunella vulgaris, Scutellaria minor.	Self-heal, Lesser scull-cap,	July & Au.	Pastures and moist meadows. Banks of the Wye.
galericulata,	Common ditto,		Ditto, ditto.

ORDER 2 .- ANGIOSPERMIA.

Systematic name. Bartsia odontites, Euphrasia officinalis, Rhinanthus crista-galli, Melampyrum pratense,

Pedicularis sylvatica, Linaria cymbalaria, Scrophularia nodosa, - aquatica, Digitalis purpurea, var alba, Orobanche major,

English name. Time of flow. Where found, &c.
Red bartsia, July & Au. Matlock Bath, and Breadsall.
Com. eyebright, July to Sep. Plentiful in pasture land.
Yellow rattle, June, Meadows, frequent.
Com. yellow cow July & Aug. St. Mary's Wood, Baslow.

wheat, Pasture louse wrt.July Ivy-leaved toadflx All Sum. Knotted-figwort, July, Ditto, ditto. Matlock Bath, Cromford, &c. In Woods. July, Water ditto, Ditto. Com. foxglove, June & July Woods & hedge-banks, com. Ditto, White ditto, Matlock Bath. Ditto, and top of Hag Tor. Great broom rape, Ditto,

CLASS XV, TETRADYNAMIA.

ORDER 1 .- SILICULOSA.

Thlaspi alpestre. Capsella bursa-pastoris, Teesdalia nudicaulis,

Cochlearia officinalis, Lepidium campestre,

Draba verna,

Cardamine pratensis, - impatiens, - hirsuta,

Arabis turrita, - hirsuta. Turritis glabra,

Nasturtium officinale, Sysimbrium officinale, Erysimum alliaria,

Cherianthus cheiri, Sinapis arvensis,

Raphanus raphanistrum.

Penny cress, June & July Middleton Dale, and M. Bath. Shepherd's purse, All sum. Everywhere abundant. Naked stalked May & JuneMiddleton Dale. teesdalia,

Com. Seurvy-grass Ditto, Com. mirthridate July, pepperwort, Witlow grass,

Castleton and Wirksworth. Corn-fields, near Hassop. Mar. to Ma. Rocks and road-side, Matlock Bath, and Baslow.

ORDER 2 .- SILIQUOSA.

Com. bitter cress. Ap. to JuneWet places, frequent. Narrow-leaved do. May & JuneMatlock Bath. Mar. to Jun. Middleton Dale, Hassop, and Hairy ditto,

Ashford. Near Cumberland Cavern. Middleton Dale. Sour wall-cress, May, Hairy rock-cress, June, Long-podded tow-May & JuneMasson Hill, near Cumberland er mustard, Cavern. Via Gellia, very fine. Fields, plentiful near Baslow. Wall cress. July, Com. hedge must. July, Fields, plentiful Garlic-treacle June & Jul. Middleton Dale. Garlic-treacle

mustard. Com. wall-flower, Ap. & May.Lover's Leap, MiddletonDale. Wild mustard, orMay & JuneCorn-fields, anywhere.

charlock, Jointed charlock, June, Corn-fields, near Bramley. or wild radish,

CLASS XVI.—MONADELPHIA.

ORDER I .- PENTANDRIA.

Erodium cicutarium, Hemlock stork's All summerBaslow, in waste grounds. bill.

ORDER 2 .- DECANDRIA.

Geranium sanguineum, - sylvaticum. pratense, lucidum. - robertianum. - molle,

- columbinum,

- phœum,

Malva sylvestris --- rotundifolia, - moschatum,

Bloody crane's billJuly, Buxton, and Haddon Hall, Wood ditto June & Jul. Woods. Blue meadow do. June to Au. Fields near Baslow and Chats. Shining-leaved do. June & Jul. Common. Herb Robert, Sum. mo. Ditto. Dove'sfoot crane's Ap. to Au. Ditto. bill

Long-stalked do. June & Jul. Matlock Bath, Middleton, and Dovedale. Dusky do. May & JuneBaslow, Brook-side, rare.

ORDER 3 .- POLYANDRA.

Common mallow, June & Au. Road-sides about Baslow. Dwarf ditto, Jun. to Sep. Foot of High Tor, Matlock. Musk ditto, July & Au Matlock Bath.

M

CLASS XVII.-DIADELPHIA.

	ORDER 1.—HE	XANDRIA.			
Systematic name.	English name.				
Corydalis lutea,	Yellow corydalis or fumitory,	, May,	Matlock Bath Bakewell, o		
claviculata,	Climbing ditto.	June & Jul.	Common.		
Fumaria officinalis.	Common ditto.	May to Au	Corn-fields.	common	every-

ORDER 2 .- OCTANDRIA.

where.

Polygala vulgaris,	Com. milk-wort, June & July Matlock Bath, many varieties ORDER 3.—DECANDRIA.
Genista tinctoria, ——— anglica,	Dyer's greenweed, July & Au. On hill side, west of Corbor. Petty-whin, June On Moor, by road-side, leadin to Sheffield, half a mile fror Baslow.
Cytisus scoparius, Ononis arvensis,	Common broom, Rest-harrow, June to Au, Road-side between Baslow an Hassop.
Anthyllis vulneraria, Orobus tuberosus,	Lady's fingers, Ditto Middleton Dale, Masson. Tuberous rooted- May & June Matlock Bath. orobus.
Latherns pratencis	Meadow vetchling July & Au, Meadows about Rowsley, &c.

010000 1000000000	orobus.		
Lathyrus pratensis,	Meadow vetchling	July & Au	. Meadows about Rowsley, &c.
Vicia sylvatica,	Wood vetch,	Ditto	Mat. Bath, Dovedale, Heights of Abraham, &c.
sepium,	Bush ditto,	June & Jul	yln pastures, on Masson, low down.
cracca.	Tufted ditto,	Ditto	Heathy Lea, and Robin Hood
sativa,	Common ditto,	Ditto	Cultivated grounds.
Ervum hirsutum.	Hairy tare,	June	Hedges about Baslow, &c.
	Smooth ditto,	Ditto	Opposite High Tor, Matlock.
Ornithopus perpusillus,	Com. bird's foot,	Ditto	Road-side at top of Ball Cross

Ornithopus perpusillus,	Smooth ditto, Ditto Opposite Figure 1 or, Mattock. Com. bird's foot, Ditto Road-side at top of Ball Cross Wood.
Trifolium repens,	White or Dutch All summer Meadows and pastures.
pratense, procumbens, Lotus corniculatus,	Com.purple trefoilDitto Ditto, ditto. Hop trefoil, July Pastures. Bird's-foot trefoil July & Au. Common.
—— major,	Greater bird's-footMay Fields near Bonsall.

Iedicago lupulina,	Black medick,	May	Road-sides, and pastures about Baslow.
sativa.	Lucerne,	June &	July Cultivated ground.

	ORDER 1.—POLYANDRIA	1.
Hypericum androsæmum, perforatum,	Tutsan, July Com. perforated Ditto St. John's wort,	Matlock Bath.
hirsutum,	Hairy ditto, Ditto	Woods and Thickets behind Baslow.
humifusum,	Trailing St.John's Ditto wort.	Road-sides, common.
pulchrum,	Small upright do. Ditto	Hill-sides.

CLASS XVIII .- POLYADELPHIA.

CLASS XIX.—SYNGENESIA.

ORDER 1.-ÆQUALIS.

	OHDER II-A	A CHENTO!
Tragopogon pratense,	Yellow goat's beard.	June Meadows by Derwent side below Baslow.
porrifolius, Sonchus arvensis, oleraceus, Lactuca virosa,	Purple ditto, Corn sow-thistle, Com. ditto Strong scented	May & June Matlock Bath, and Bonsall. August Corn-fields, too frequent. June to Au. Waste places, common. July & Au. Matlock Bath.
scariola, Leontodon taraxicum,	Prickly lettuce, Dandelion,	Ditto About Peak's Hole. All summer Meadows, pastures, &c. com.

BOTANY.

Systematic Name. Hieracum pilosella, - sylvaticum, Carduus nutans,

Cincus heterophyllus, -- eriophorus, Eupatorium cannabinum, Arcticum lappa.

English Name. Time of flower. Where found, &c. Com. mouse-ear Ditto Dry pastures.

Musk thistle, July & Au. On Beeton Rod.
Plume thistle, July Pastures frequent Buxton Plume thistle. Woolly-headeddo. Ditto Hemp agrimony, July & Au. Ditto, ditto. Com. burdock, Ditto Woods and

Pastures frequent Buxton, &c. Matlock Bath, &c. Woods and waste land.

ORDER 2 .- SUPERFLUA.

Tanacetum vulgare, Artemesia vulgaris, Gnaphalium dioicum, Conyza squarrosa,

Tussilago Farfara, Petasites vulgaris, Senicio vulgaris, -- Jacobæa,

Solidago virgaurea, Doronicum Pardalianches, Bellis perennis.

mum, Pyrethrum parthenium,

Matricaria chamomilla, Achillea millefolium, - serrata,

Common tansy, August Mugwort, Ditto Ditto, ditto.

Mount. cudweed, June & July Hill-side behind Baslow.

Ploughman's spike-September High Tor.

nard. Colts-foot, Mar. & April Common. Com, butter-bur, Com. groundsel,

bane,

Common daisy, Feb. to Sep. Everywhere abundant.

Com. feverfew, July Wild chamomile, Com. milfoil, Serate varrow, August

Banks of Derwent.

Ap. & May Wet ground, All summer Everywhere abundant. Com. ragwort,

Com. gawort,

Ju. & Aug. In neglected pastures, &c., and in waste ground. Common.

Com. golden-rod, July to Sep. Matlock Vale, &c.

Great leopard's- June & July Matlock Bath and Haddon.

Chrysanthemum leucanthe- Great orange daisy, June & July Dry pastures and poor soils.

"Plentiful on the "Peak." Com. in waste places, Matlock, Haddon, &c August Fields about Baslow, &c. May to Au. Road sides, frequent. Near Matlock.

ORDER 3 .- FRUSTANEA.

Centaurea nigra. - scabiosa. - cvanus.

Black knap-weed, June to Au. Very abundant. Ditto Great ditto, Com. blue-bottle. July to Au. Corn-fields, frequent.

CLASS XX .- GYNANDRIA.

ORDER I .- MONANDRIA.

Orchis pyramidalis,

- morio - - mascula, - ustulata, -- militaris -- maculata, -- hircina, Gymnadenia conopsea,

Habenaria bifolia, - viridis, Herminium monorchis, Ophrys muscifera, - apifera, Listera ovata,

nidus-avis, - cordata, Epipactis latifolia, - palustris,

Pyramidal orchis, July.

Green winged meadJune Early purple orchisDitto Dwarf ditto, May 8 Man orchis. June & July Spotted ditto. denia June Fly-ophrys,

Lizard orchis, July Crich; very rare. Fragrant gymna- June to Au. Masson, &c. Butterflyhabenaria. June.
Green habenaria, June & July Top of Masson, & Beeton Rod.
Green musk-orchis, Ditto.
Longstone Rakes, and Hassop. Bee-ophrys, July Ditto, ditto.

Com. twa blade, July Everywhere plentiful.

Com. bird's nest do. May & June. Matlock Bath, and Willersley.

Heart-leaved ditto, July & Aug. Beeton Rod, near Hassop, &c.

Heights of Abraham, &c. Com. helleborine, Ditto, Marsh ditto, July,

Matlock Bath, Bonsall, and on

Beeton Rod. Everywhere abundant. Ditto, ditto. May & June Masson. May Matlock Bath. Ditto.

> Masson, rare.
> Ditto, ditto.
> Everywhere plentiful Heights of Abraham, &c. Bramley and Hassop.

Humulus lupulus,

CLASS XXI.-MONŒCIA.

ORDER I .- MONANDRIA.

ORDER 3 -TRIANDRIA

	0 110 111 01 1 111111 111111	
Sparganium ramosum, ————————————————————————————————————	Branched-bur-reed July Unbranched ditto, July Vernal carex, Apl. & May Pendulous wood do May & Jun	Ditches & ponds, Ashford, &c. Ditto, ditto. y Pastures, common, Baslow. e Stand-Wood, Chatsworth.
paniculata,	Great panicled June	Ditto, ditto.

OPDER 4 TETRANDRIA

	OKDER 4.—	I E I KANDKIA.
Urtica urens, —— dioica,	Small nettle, Great ditto,	June to Oct. Woods and waste places, com. July & Aug. Road-sides, hedges, &c., com.
	OPDEPS	PENTANDRIA

	ORDER S.—PENTANDRIA	
Bryonia dioica,	Red-berried Bryony May	Matlock Bath, common.

	ORDER 6.—HEXANDRIA.	
Eriocaulon septangulare.		Not found in the " Peak."

	ORDER 7P		
Arum maculosum,	Cuckow-pint,		In woods, plentiful.

CLASS XXII.-DIOICA.

ORDER 1.-DIANDRIA.

Salix frigilis, —— alba. —— vitellina, ——— ambigua,	Crack. willow, Com. white ditto, Yellow ditto, Ambiguous, ditto,	May Ditto, Ditto	Banks of the Ditto, Ditto, Ditto,	Derwent. ditto. ditto. ditto.
	ORDER 2.—TI	KIANDRIA.		
Empetrum nigrum.	Crow-berry,	May	On moors.	

	ORDER 3.	-TETRANDRI	A.	
Viscum album,	Misletoe,	May		Chatsworth it has been
	ORDER 4	-PENTANDRI	A.	

July

Not found in the "Peak."

	ORDER 5.—I	HEXANDRI	A.
Tamus communis,	Black bryony,	June	Matlock Bath, thickets.

Common hop,

Mercurialis perennis,	Dog Mercury,	April	Everywhere common.

CLASS XXIII .- POLYGAMIA.

ORDER 7 -ENNEANDRIA.

ORDER 1 .- MONŒCIA.

Atriplex patula,	Halberd-leaved orach.	July	Cultivated fields,	Baslow.

CLASS XXIV .- CRYPTOGAMIA. (In part.)

ORDER 1 .- FILICES. (The ferns.)

Systematic Name. Grammitis,	English Name. Scaly,	Where found, &c. On Rocks, in one locality, in Lath! Dale; "very sparingly on rocks in Do dale, and near Berresford Hall."		
Polypodium,	Grammitis, Rigid three- branched polypod	Ditto. "Matlock ly, Middlet	Bath," Salad Hole Mine, near on Dale, and on Rocks going Topley-Pike to Buxton.	
calcareum, vulgare,	polypody, Common ditto,	Ditto, Comm		
Aspidium, dumetorum,	Thicket shield-ferr	n," This is tat, viz. believed	found on Sir J. E. Smith's habi- , Black Rock, Cromford, but is to be only a less luxuriant va- the A. dilatatum, than is gene- twith."—Mr. Riley.	
lobatum,	Close-leaved ditto,	" Via Gel	lia," Lindup-Wood, near Rows- Heathy-Lee.	
aculeatum, angulare, oreopteris, filix-mas, dilatatum,	Soft-prickly ditto, Angular-leaved do Heath ditto, Blunt ditto, Great crested ditto	On Rocks o," Lover's Entrance Stand-W	in Lindup-Wood, near Rowsley. Walk," and Stand-Wood, Chats. to Dethick Moor. ood, Chatsworth. ditto.	
Cistopteris,	Bladder Fern, Brittle ditto,		and old walls about Matlock and	
fragilis,		Chatswo	orth.	
dentata,	Toothed bladder fern.	Ditto	, ditto.	
Asplenium Trichomanes,	Com. wall spleen- wort.	On limest	tone walls.	
Ruta-muraria, ————————————————————————————————————		Common On the li	on old walls. mestone, rather scarce.	
Scolopendrum, Pteris aquilina,	Com. heart's-tong Common brake, Common		on. ere abundant.	
Botrychium, Lunaria,	Moonwort,	" Moors, Calver and Bu	near Brampton;" in pasture near Mill-wear; behind Sir William; kton.	
Cryptogramma, crispa,	Curled rock-brake	, In old wa	all, by the road-side, beyond the -Fiddle Inn, Buxton.	
	Northern hard-fer	n, Very co	mmon.	
Ophioglossum, vulgatum,	Com.adder's tongu		orth Park on flat near Mansion, in es on Riley, and ditto near Baslow.	
	ORDER 2LYC	OPODIAC	EŒ,	
Lycopodium selago,	Firelub-moss,		oor, and near Cat-and-Fiddle Inn,	
clavatum,	Stag's horn,	East Mod	or, Abney Moor, and top of Sir	
alpinum,	Savin-leaved do,	William, Eyam. Top of Sir William, and Abney Mooi one point of which, overlooking Caston, the three species grow closely tog		
	ORDER 3EQ	UISETACE	CCE.	
Equisetum fluviatile,	Great water horse	- April,	Wet places plentiful.	
———— arvense,	tail. Com. horse-tail,	April,	Corn-fields, plentiful.	



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