

acted—here compliments are paid and returned, invitations given and received, and all the little *et cetera* of fashion performed. As I have mentioned scandal, I cannot help observing, that, owing to the great number of maidens who have felt the pangs of slighted love, and have been “unbroken in upon by kisses,” this vice is too common, and often usurps the place of attic salt at their *conversations*. And few are found charitable enough to correct its venom, and turn its shaft from innocence and beauty; which, fragile in their natures, soon feel its fatal effects.

The fine arts are here in a most deplorable situation. There is one miniature-painter, who gives something like a human head for a guinea; and although several artists of merit have attempted to settle in this city, yet the want of being supported, the necessary consequence of want of taste, obliged them to fly to more genial climes.

Five statues (I recollect no more) ornament Cork—one of William the Third, in the Manson-house, of lead, on a wooden pedestal, painted in colours to resemble life—An equestrian one of his late Majesty, on the Grand Parade, also of lead, emphatically denominated, King George on Horseback—A most famous representation of that celebrated patriot, Alderman Lawton (who kept the city very clean) in his robes, adorns the Exchange. The upper part of this last elegant building, when I was in Cork, was painted yellow, the lower part black.

In the church of St. Nicholas is a very fine monument, by Bacon, erected in memory of the late Lord Trafton, which was refused admittance into the Cathedral by the Dean, lest it should revive Popish ideas; and behind the Court-house is a headless figure of James the Second, which loyalty once erected, and which loyalty, ever varying, pulled down again.

Although the fine arts are thus neglected, yet Cork has produced some artists who honour their profession—For instance, Mr. Barry, late professor of painting at the Royal Academy, whose pictures in the Adelphi immortalise his name, as they stigmatise the Society for which they were painted: Mr. Burk, one of the most elegant and correct drawers we have at present, and who, in my opinion, is the only modern painter who seems to possess clear notions of the beautiful ideal. The late Mr. Butt, the Claude of Ireland, was also a native of this place, as is the present Mr. Grogan, excellent in depicting scenes in low life. I have seen several of

his pictures no way inferior to the productions of *Hemskirk*.

Poetry is much indebted to the late learned Dr. de la Cour, of this place, whose Prospect of Poetry is admirable. This gentleman had the honour of his works so much at heart, that having two of his lines parodied, he became insane, and continued so till his death.

The lines were parodied thus:—

The northern blast envelopes the schologue,
And whistles through his leathern malevogue.

Your's, &c.

A. C. B.

For the Monthly Magazine.

Account of RAVENSTONEDALE, in WEST-MORLAND.

(Concluded from page 31 of our last.)

THE church, though small, and not sufficiently capacious for containing a greater number than six hundred people, is nevertheless a very neat and beautiful structure, fully adequate to the population of the place, and capable of receiving a much larger congregation than almost ever assembles here for divine worship. This church was rebuilt in 1744, is very light, and admits a good circulation of air. The chancel measures four paces in length, and two and one-half in breadth. The whole length of the nave is thirteen paces, and its width eight. There are eight windows to the south, eight to the north, and two to the east. There is only one aisle, which is seven feet wide. The pulpit is erected against the north side of the church, and exactly at the half length of the nave. The seats are made of oak, and rise regularly and beautifully one above another. At the west end of the church is a gallery. The steeple is in the form of a square tower, and has three bells. It is said, that the church here was formerly dedicated to St. Oswald. Although a parish church, it is only a perpetual curacy; and is in the patronage of the Earl of Lenfale as lord of the manor. The present incumbent is the Rev. Mr. Bownes. The stipend appertaining to the curate, and arising from the ancient salary paid out of the rectory, from lands given to the church or purchased with money left for that purpose, and from certain sums bequeathed to it as annuities, was estimated by Dr. Burn, in 1777, at 35l. per ann. Since that time, two augmentations, of 400l. each, have been obtained from Queen Ann's and a private bounty in London, and lands purchased therewith; inasmuch that

that the yearly value of the curacy must at this time be upwards of 70*l.* The dwelling-house belonging to the curate, which is but a small edifice, was built in 1781.

Here is also a handsome meeting-house for dissenters of calvinistic principles. And it is not more than justice to observe, that this meeting-house is pretty well attended, that the people in general who frequent it, are studious respecting the doctrines of religion, and that the minister is a zealous and laborious preacher. The minister has lately established a Sunday school for the education of youth in the principles of christianity, at which fifty or sixty scholars frequently attend; and he regularly superintends their instruction during the intervals of preaching. The revenue of this meeting-house is something more than 40*l.* per ann. a sum certainly inadequate to the maintenance of a clergyman's family, and which, especially during the present exorbitant prices of the necessaries of life, it is the indispensable duty of the congregation properly to consider.

The grammar-school at Ravenstonedale was founded and endowed about the year 1683; and in 1758, a very good new school-house was built; adjoining to which a dwelling-house for the master was also erected. Board and education being here reasonable, and, as yet, not exceeding together eighteen guineas a year, there are at present several boys from other counties, who lodge in the village, and are instructed at this school in the different branches of literature. The boys belonging to the parish, who learn the Latin and Greek languages, are in consideration of the stipend of the school, which at this time amounts to nearly 35*l.* per ann. taught free of expence, but for instruction in any other department they pay accordingly. This school might have been of much more value than at present, and its revenue would scarcely (if at all) have been less than that of any other seminary in the county, had not the trustees imprudently, and perhaps illegally, converted two estates, purchased with the bequests of the founders, into rent-charges or annuities. This was done almost a century ago. One of the estates is now worth 70*l.* a year, or upwards; whereas the annuity is only 6*l.* and the other rent charge is, no doubt, proportionably inadequate to the real value of the estate. The continual decrease in the value of money, and consequently increase in the value of land, render all fixed sums, in process of time, very

defective. It is greatly to be regretted, that no public-spirited individuals should have attempted the recovery of these estates; since, besides other illegalities attending actions of this nature, there is a special clause in the deed of settlement, that the trustees shall apply the rents and profits of the said estates to the use of the schoolmaster, and shall not make any lease thereof for a longer term than twenty-one years*. The number of scholars, upon an average, is about thirty-six. There are very few of the inhabitants, that are natives of this parish, who cannot read; and the greatest part of them are able to write, and understand the common rules of arithmetic; and in many instances, the more substantial landholders procure their children a very good education. Instruction is so cheap, that it is not placed beyond the reach of the poorest; and the anxiety expressed by the people for the instruction of their children, proves that they are impressed with a due sense of the importance and utility of education, in almost every department and transaction of life: nay, they have often been known voluntarily to undergo hardship and fatigue, that they might procure their children useful and virtuous instruction; and many have been sufficiently required for such care and attention by their sons thereby rising to affluence and eminence, and acquiring the respect and esteem of mankind.

Ravenstonedale, though divided into what are here denominated *angles*, is nevertheless all one constablewick; it provides for its poor conjointly, and has no subordinate or independent townships. The number of poor upon the roll for last year, amounted to 156; and the sum expended for their relief was upwards of 500*l.* which, at an average, might probably be 18. 3*d.* for each person, per week. No one received more than 4*s.* 6*d.* per week, and none had less than 1*s.* 6*d.* a month; and distribution was made according to the nature and circumstances of the case. Stock to the amount of 583*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* was sometime ago purchased in the three per cent. consol. annuities, for the benefit of the poor of this parish; and the interest of this sum is regularly applied to their relief. At the time of Bishop Nicolson's parochial visitation in 1703, he was informed by the church-wardens of Ravenstonedale, they had not had a beggar in the parish within the memory of man;

* Dr. Burn.

and between thirty and forty years ago, the poor-rates did not amount to 20*l.* per annum.

The price of labour, as perhaps in all other places, is very unequal to the present prices of provisions. Men servants with victuals have from 6*l.* to 10*l.*; and maid servants from 3*l.* to 4*l.* a year. Common labourers have in summer 12*d.* and in winter 8*d.* a day and their victuals. Carpenters and masons have 2*s.* per day, without victuals. Taylors have 1*s.* a day, and victuals. During the hay-harvest, which for the most part commences here towards the end of June or beginning of July, men have 2*s.* or 2*s.* 6*d.*; women 1*s.*; boys 1*s.* per day, and their victuals. Men, who hire for a month in the hay-harvest, have from 2*l.* to 3*l.*; women, from 16*s.* to 1*l.* 7*s.*; boys, from 12*s.* to 1*l.* 4*s.*; and they are also allowed victuals and drink. After the hay-harvest is finished, the greatest part of the men, women, and children betake themselves to the knitting of worsted stockings for Kendal, and some of them will earn by this business five or six shillings a week. The number of stockings knit in Ravenstonedale has been computed at upwards of one thousand pairs per week, one week with another through the year. Oatmeal is at present 2*s.* 6*d.* the Winchester peck. Flour is 5*s.* 9*d.* a stone. During the last winter and spring, beef sold at 7*d.*; mutton at 7*d.*; veal at 6*d.*; and pork at 8*d.* per pound. The oatmeal is chiefly supplied from the market of Kirkby-Stephen.

To the north and north-east of the church is a pretty large park, the wall of which appears to have been ten feet high, or upwards; but there is no remembrance, that deer were ever kept in it: it was fenced about by Philip Lord Wharton, in the year 1660. Of the land taken for the formation of this park, tradition says (and we must also confess, there are some facts, which seem strongly to favour a report of this nature), that it was the property of the inhabitants, and the then lord of the manor deprived them of it; but as a small compensation for the injury thereby sustained, he allowed them to inclose and cultivate part of the adjacent common. In this park, it is said, formerly stood the village of Ravenstonedale.

Anciently this parish had very great and extensive privileges conferred upon it, by some of the popes, and the kings of this realm. These privileges appear to have been granted, in consideration of the manor and advowson being annexed to the priory of Walton in Yorkshire, which

was of the order of Sempringham in Lincolnshire. By these grants the inhabitants had not only a freedom from toll and other personal or pecuniary charges, but they had also the privilege of sanctuary, throughout the whole of their possessions; inasmuch that the sheriff, or any other of the king's officers, could not enter to apprehend offenders, but the criminals were to be tried before the steward of the manor, by a jury of the tenants, and punished or acquitted according to the sentence of that court. Exceptions were however made in cases of life and member, when the culprits were to be tried within the manor, by commissioners appointed by the crown; and the priory was entitled to the goods and effects of the felons attainted. In pursuance of these grants and privileges, a manuscript of Mr. Anthony Fothergill of Trannahill in this parish, written in the year 1645, sets forth, that if a murderer fled to the church or sanctuary, and tolled the holy bell (as it was called), he was free; and that if a stranger, who had offended, came within the precincts of the manor, he was safe from any pursuer. And he also adds, "Of our own knowledge, and within our own memory, no felon (though a murderer) was to be carried out of the parish for trial." And at this time, there is a place within the lord's park, in sight of the ancient highway leading from Kirkby-Stephen to Kendal, commonly called and known by the name of the gallows-hill, which was undoubtedly the spot allotted for the execution of criminals. Amercements for bloodshed and other crimes, not felony, were frequent not very many years ago; and the jurisdiction relative to offences of this nature indisputably still exists, for no act of parliament hath ever abolished it. But the privilege of sanctuary, in this and all other places, was annulled in the reign of James I. and the other privileges have become extinct. The lord of the manor, however, still exercises the jurisdiction of proving of wills and granting letters of administration, which is a privilege of prior origin to any of the aforesaid ancient grants; and the steward of the lord's court administers the oath of office to the churchwardens of the parish; but in all other particulars, this place hath no peculiar exemption. All the land here is held of the lord of the manor by customary tenure; and what may be reckoned a remnant of ancient vassalage, the tenements cannot be broken or divided without the previous consent of the lord.

At a place called Rasate (the word *rase* probably

probably denoting a hill or rising ground), not far from Sunbiggin tarn, are two *tumuli*, which were opened, and many human bodies found in them. It was observed, that the bodies were placed in such a manner that all the heads extended to the summit of the hill, and that the hands were stretched over their breasts. At Newbiggin, a village, in this parish, there was formerly a chapel, supposed to have been dedicated to St. Helen; and at the north end of the village, is a field called chapel garth, and a spring known by the name of St. Helen's well. On the highway from Kirkby-Stephen to Sedberg, and near Rawthey bridge, is a circle of large stones, supposed to be the remains of a Druidical temple. Mr. Fawcett Hunter had a house lately, remarkable for its situation, which was very descriptive of the nature and elevation of the country. The water that fell off one side of this house, ran into a brook that joins the river Eden, which empties itself into the sea below Carlisle; whilst the water that descended from the other side of the house, flowed into the rivers Rawthey and Lune, which fall into the sea below Lancaster.

Of persons that deserve to be particularly mentioned, and who were once eminent and distinguished characters, and natives of this parish, we may perhaps properly reckon the following. 1. Sir William Fothergill, who lived in the reign of king Henry VIII. and was standard-bearer to Sir Thomas Wharton, at the famous rencounter at Sollom Moss, where a very few English routed a Scotch army of fifteen thousand men. 2. George Fothergill, esq. of Tarn-house, who lived in the time of Charles II. and was clerk of the peace for the county of Westmoreland. 3. Thomas Fothergill, B. D. master of St. John's College in Cambridge, and founder of the grammar-school in Ravenstonedale. 4. Mr. Anthony Fothergill of Brounber, who, without any assistance from a liberal education, and by the mere force of natural endowments, was the author of several considerable tracts, religious and controversial. 5. George Fothergill, D. D. late principal of St. Edmund-hall in Oxford, who favoured the public during his life with several sermons preached before the university on particular occasions, and left behind him two volumes of sermons for publication, which exactly pourtray the life and manners of the author. He was a person of the greatest piety and virtue; and whilst fellow of Queen's College, in the same university, was universally esteemed one of the

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most learned and eminent tutors of his time*. He died in 1760, aged fifty-four. 6. Thomas Fothergill, D. D. late provost of Queen's college in Oxford, prebendary of Durham, and a younger brother of the above-mentioned Dr. George Fothergill. He succeeded his brother as tutor in the college, and in every respect imitated his amiable and laudable example. He was author of several sermons; and died in 1796, in the eighty-third year of his age. Both brothers were great benefactors to the public institutions here; and their memories will be long held in reverence and esteem.

The public roads in this parish, and indeed throughout the whole county, have been considerably improved of late years. In Ravenstonedale three pence per pound, according to valuation, is paid annually out of all landed property, as a modus or prescription for the making and repairing of roads; and as excellent materials are near at hand, they are not only well made, but kept in good repair. There are two large turnpikes, with several cross roads, in the parish; and some others are at present under contemplation. It is to be hoped, that no prejudices shall operate to counteract any improvements that may be deemed necessary, and which, however considered in the mean time, must ultimately conduce to the comfort and the advantage of the people.

A book-society was set on foot here, about seven or eight years ago; but in the space of two or three years, it was found necessary to be dissolved. The subscription money, which was only five shillings per ann. was certainly very inadequate to an undertaking of this nature. But independent of this, the genius and circumstances of the people, who from their occupation cannot be supposed greatly inclined to pursuits of a literary tendency, were perhaps the most serious difficulties, with which this institution had to contend. In giving a general character of the inhabitants, however, it is only just to say, that they are a sensible, sober, and industrious people; and though possessing a competent share of the comforts and conveniences of life, they have not arrived at such a state of civilization and refinement, as to depart from that pleasing simplicity which characterizes and adorns rural scenes.

In this parish are about 180 horses of all descriptions; and 10170 sheep upon

*See Public Characters of 1769 and 1800, in the life (I think) of Dr. Harrington.

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the commons. In the river Lon or Lune, which has its rise here, and in the rivulet that runs through the parish, are very good trouts. In a tarn also, at the head of the village of Ravenstonedale, are trouts and a great number of eels. The wild quadrupeds here are foxes, otters, hares, wild cats, pole-cats, ermines and weasels. The birds are partridges, plovers, wild ducks, teals, snipes, and a great number of moor game. Of migratory birds there are the cuckow, the goatsucker, the swift, the house and window swallow, the sand martin or river swallow, the curlew, the lapwing, the tewit, and the sandpiper. There is also great plenty of the rarer species of birds, as the land and water rail, the missel thrush, the goldfinch and bulfinch, the willow-wren, the redstart, the fly-catcher; with the dun, the grey, and the barn owls.

The cuckoo usually appears here about the 20th of April, and departs about the 5th of July; the house and window-swallows about the 20th of April, and depart from the 4th to the 30th of September; the sand-martin from the 15th to the 31st of March, and departs about the 1st. of September; the curlew and lapwing about the middle of March and depart about the middle of August; the swift and goatsucker arrive at the commencement of continued daylight, which is about the 9th of May, and depart at the end of it, which is about the 2d of August; the sandpiper visits and stays through the whole of the breeding season; and the tewit is often found here in winter, when the weather is mild.

On the top of Wildboar-fell, the highest mountain in the parish, and perhaps not much inferior to any in the county, is frequently a very remarkable phenomenon, called a helm-wind, which probably nowhere exists in the kingdom, but in the north-east part of Westmoreland, and on the confines of the counties of Yorkshire and Lancashire. A rolling cloud, for three or four days incessantly floats on the summit of this mountain, when the sky is clear in every other part. This cloud is called by the country people the *helm*, which is said to be an Anglo-Saxon word, signifying a covering for the head, and from whence comes the diminutive *helmet*. This helm is not dispersed or blown away by the wind, but remains in its station, although a violent and roaring hurricane issues with incredible fury down the sides of the mountain, and threatens to destroy all before it. On a sudden ensues a profound calm; and

then again alternately the tempest; which seldom extends into the country, more than a mile or two from the foot of the mountain.

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,

IN your Number, published last month, I observe a detailed account of the National Debt, and a terrifying view of our Financial Situation. If I can make it appear to the writer, who has subscribed himself M. N. that, through haste, or inadvertence, he has fallen into any mistake, I venture to presume that he will hold himself under an obligation to me; but this is far from being my strongest motive for requesting you to insert this letter in your valuable Repository. I shall endeavour to supply the public with a more correct statement of its present debt, than has appeared in any former publication. Should I fail in the undertaking, you will find me, Sir, most willing to acknowledge, and rectify my error.

“It is to be observed (says M. N.) that the stock charged upon the income-tax, and the Imperial-loan, which are properly included in Mr. Tierney’s and Mr. Morgan’s statements, has, in this very concise account (Mr. Addington’s) been entirely omitted.” But a reference to the resolutions submitted to the House of Commons, will clearly shew, that Mr. Tierney, as well as Mr. Addington, deducts the advances to the Emperor. Mr. Tierney states (as M. N. has justly observed) “that the total amount of the public funded debt was, on the 1st of February, 1801, 484,365,464*l.* of which sum 27,211,383*l.* is on account of Ireland and the Emperor of Germany;” but what are the remaining words of the resolution? They are, as follows—“*leaving a funded debt charged upon Great Britain of 457,154,081*l.* including 56,445,000*l.* the interest of which is to be defrayed, and the capital redeemed, by the tax on income.*”

484,365,464*l.*

27,211,383*l.* to be deducted on account of Ireland, and the Emperor of Germany.

457,154,081*l.*

• 7,502,633*l.* Three per cent. stock created by advances to the Emperor.

19,708,751*l.* Capital stock on account of Ireland.

27,211,383*l.*

Thus