CORDINER, Charles. Remarkable Ruins, and romantic Prospects of North Britain. With ancient Monuments, and singular Subjects of Natural History...London, P. Mazell, 1788.

4to., with engraved frontispiece and title and 97 engraved plates by Peter Mazell, those on natural history subjects duplicated in colour; contemporary polished russia, gilt edges, joints neatly repaired.

#1250

FIRST EDITION, SPECIAL ISSUE.

The Beckford copy, the plates proofs before letters and the 24 natural history plates in two states, plain, and delicately coloured by hand. These relate entirely to species of the lower orders such as corals, starfishes, sponges, etc.

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BY
BERNARD QUARITCH,
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W. BECKFORD,
AUTHOR OF "VATHEK,"
born 1760, died 1844.
TENTH
DUKE OF HAMILTON,
born 1767, died 1852.

REMARKABLE RUINS ,
and
 ROMANTIC PROSPECTS,
of
 NORTH BRITAIN.
with
 () Ancient Monuments,
 and SINGULAR SUBJECTS of
 () Natural History

INTRODUCTORY ADDRESS.

THE favourable reception which the first specimens of this publication met with, was a powerful inducement to persevere in the endeavour of executing the future Engravings in a style worthy of the flattering notice bestowed on the former: and the countenance and attention wherewith the departments of Antiquities and Natural History were honoured, by Men of Taste and Science, made the studies that lead to the illustration of these several subjects be cultivated with an ardour, which only such approbation could have inspired.

The grandeur and beauty of many scenes, wherewith we are presented amid the CALEDONIAN wilds; and the rude magnificence of the cliffs on her bold and rocky shores; promised a series of romantic LANDSCAPE, deserving of notice and description: and the RUINS of ancient Buildings, which appear among them in forlorn decay, suggested variety of interesting reflection to the attentive Traveller: 'twas of importance, therefore, to accompany these Engravings with some History of the Ruins, and Annals of the parts of the Country to which the Plates refer.

The very remarkable **OBELISKS** that yet remain in the deepest solitudes, and on the most detached hills; covered over with sculptures which evince them to have been set up in the early ages of Christianity, and before alphabetical writing was practised in these northern counties; seemed a curious subject of investigation, which had been but partially attended to: a department was therefore allotted to these Monuments, wherein the origin of the several figures sculptured on them might be fully traced, and their hieroglyphical import, or allegorical allusion, as far as possible, shewn. In illustrating this subject much yet remains to be done.

The subjects of **NATURAL HISTORY**, here presented, are solely marine animals, or productions from the depths of the Ocean. To the variety of life, and its wonderful operations, which pervades the bottom of the sea, human research can never set a bound. For although, thro' the united labours of ingenious men, the Insects of the field and garden have had their structure and ingenuity very fully displayed; yet the instincts and faculties of these wonderful artificers, which inhabit the deep beds of the Ocean, are but comparatively little known.

The difficulties attending the research and investigation of the modes of life, and contrivances to chear existence, that operate among those beings which have a fixed residence there, have been an almost insuperable barrier to our full acquaintance with that part of the system.—In numberless instances, however, we perceive their form and texture to be no less exquisitely

quisitely fine, than their sagacity and activity are admirable. The having access to rich stores of all manner of productions dredged up with ease from the bottom of these seas, preserved in their native element, and frequently seen in all their healthful, animated state; while the spirit of enterprize actuates their frame, informs their beauty, and calls forth all their ingenuity and arts; became an inviting incitement to attempt the delineation of some of their more elegant forms, and to describe such peculiarities as occur in their manner of life. These seemed also most interesting and engaging subjects of attention, and claimed a separate department in this Work.

Myriads of existence, in a most animated and busy scene; for ever lie concealed from our view in the unfathomable retreats of the Ocean; but enough is seen to give us high conceptions of its concealed wonders, and inspire the profoundest astonishment, at the infinite variety of forms that are there made recipient of life, and capable of exhibiting such eminent specimens of admirable workmanship, as disclose high evidences of DEITY! of SUPREME INTELLIGENCE, ordaining the forms and inspiring the energies of CREATION! and offering innumerable testimonies to our view, that INFINITE WISDOM is the LORD of NATURE!

This is the incense that Divine Philosophy kindles on the Altar of Science, and finds that sacred flame beam with the light of life.

In the present so distinguished æra of improvement in the Arts, when all Europe is awake to the refined enjoyments derived from works of Taste; the researches of Science are every day pursued with encreasing relish, and the fruits of these engaging studies come forth to view in a lustre unknown to former ages.

While the high pleasure of investigating the œconomy of NATURE, in her more wonderful and hidden paths, joined to that of contemplating those august and beautiful scenes which adorn the more open theatre of Creation, are constituted some of the superior amusements of polished life; the unravelling of the annals of the more obscure periods of early ages, and tracing out those circumstances that relate to the first improvements of Society, in Science, in Religion, and in Manners, seem equally interesting to numbers: while all conspire to furnish out the profound and elevating entertainments of Genius and Philosophic enquiry:—The Arts that favour these flourish, under the protection of the most EMINENT CHARACTERS of the BRITISH NATION:—to THEM this WORK is addressed, as at their instance it has been carried on,

By their most obedient
humble Servants,

CHARLES CORDINER,

JULY 1, 1788.

AND

PETER MAZELL.

P. Maxwell del.

1871

The *GREEN-LOCH*, in *GLEN-MORE*.

GLEN-MORE is a rugged valley, of vast extent, embosomed deep amid the *Carn-gorum*, and other mountains. It contains a very valuable forest belonging to the Duke of *Gordon*. It is computed that there are thirty thousand trees in it, fit for masts and yards of ships, and are excellent timber when cut into planks and deals. The wild and magnificent prospects, afforded by the mountainous regions which surround the Glen, are full of that horrid grandeur which astonishes and over-awes; yet there is a native power in these great scenes to elevate and please. The mind of the admirer partakes of their sublimity: beholding these enormous and lofty piles of precipices, cloathed with wood, gradually rising to the sky—their summits partaking of the azure of the firmament, and towering above the clouds—the astonished spectator feels a kind of connexion with these superior regions he explores, and experiences a corresponding elevation of thought. The regions round *Glen-more* are full of these great scenes of nature, which in contemplation yield the most sublime pleasure.

The *Green-loch* is at one end of *Glen-more*; (in the middle of the valley there is a still larger piece of water). This Loch has derived its appellation from the tinge given to it by the leaves, which are continually falling into it from the trees on the overhanging precipices. The broad variegated mountain which cuts the most distinguished figure on the border of the Loch, and in the view here given of it, is called *Crag-na-gaul*. The rock in many places is mouldering down, and sweeps away the rising trees; but clumps of vast firs, interspersed with hazel, holly, and, near the borders of the Loch, quaking-ash, still maintain their ground amid the falling rocks. Nature is ever busy, replacing what is lost by the occasional devastation.

Enormous fallen trees, and others decaying through age, or shattered by the storms of many a winter, hanging over the Loch in all their native wildness, and in the casual arrangements of Nature in her rudest state, make the environs of this Loch present the most picturesque and romantic scenes, worthy the pencil of a *Rembrandt*, a *Salvator Rosa*, or a *Claud Lorrain*.

Don Miguel Gulep

London print

BODDOM CASTLE.

THE remains of this old castle are situated on a lofty promontory ; a cliff peninsulated by two immense chasms in the precipice, or rather hideous havens, on either hand.

It is one of those situations chosen for defence and security in a barbarous age : in that age it has been a place of importance : some pieces of cannon still lying in the neighbouring banks, indicate its having been chosen as a fortress and place of strength. Its last possessors were of the name of *Keith*, some distant branch of the *Marechal* family.

Boddom Head, the name of the promontory on which this castle stands, is also known by the name of *The Buchan-nefs* ; and forms on the South a headland to the spacious bay of *Peterhead* ; which being in the Eastmost point of *Scotland*, is of considerable importance to shipping.

A mile or two out at sea from *Boddom Head*, there is a singular large rock, which, rising gradually to the top, may be climbed up without difficulty. From thence there is a fine prospect of the strange cliffs along the coast to *Slains Castle* ; and of the town and harbour of *Peterhead*.

Phacel. long

Phacel. long

C. Cordier del.

P. Marshall sculp.

SINGULAR POLYPE.

Published according to Act of Parliament, No. 504, 1794, by Peter Marshall, Engraver, No. 45, Drury Lane.

SINGULAR POLYPE.

THE Zoophyta are in general distinguished by such displays of intelligence, and wise design in the formation of them, as fills our minds with admiration. The detail of particular facts relating to their structure and œconomy, become hence more exceedingly interesting, as it leads to new discoveries of the universal care of the great Author of Nature. This is the primary object of Natural History, and enhances the delight and entertainment of it.

This very beautiful Polype, at A and C, we shall call, The Sea Marigold, until abler hands shall appoint it a more characteristical place in the system of marine animals.

It is remarkable, that the case B, in which it lodges, is not a shell, nor of a shelly substance; but is of a skinny nature, soft, compressible, elastic: by this peculiarity it is essentially distinguished from all those animals that are the inhabitants of tubular shells. Its rays, or tentacula, are admirably contrived for catching and inclosing minute animals; and it is often employed in playing them round in the water, seemingly in search of food and nourishment; and is seen evidently catching at something, at atoms which elude human observation.

The structure of the tentacula is very remarkable; the extremity of each, appears like a miniature of the whole; and each individual ray, *viz.* 1, 2, 3, &c. is an active trap: they severally bend and wave in opposite directions, and in these exertions vary their form, as at E.—D is one of the tentacula on a still larger scale, by which the exquisitely fine formation of the whole is the more clearly displayed.

It is altogether most delicately alive to any hostile touch, and seems even to have a presentiment of the approach of injury, probably from the movement of the water; and then, with instantaneous dexterity, retreats into the case B; and is there so completely shut up, as not to be in the least discernible.

When all has been quiet about it for some time, it expands by slow degrees, as if fearful of the danger, or the enemy being not yet past; but feeling no disturbance, spreads forth again in all its beauty.—A, is the natural size, on the tubular coralline, to which it adhered.—C, the same, magnified.—It was dredged up from the bottom of fifty fathom water, from hard ground, some leagues from the coast at *Banff*; where corals, and stones covered with shells, are frequent, and exhibit varieties of animals not found on the shores.

Of MONUMENTS.

IT was a custom of great antiquity, in many nations, to bury or entomb along with eminent persons, instruments of their achievements or sports; as emblems of their characters, and of the avocations in which they took delight. The transition from this custom, as arts improved, was natural and easy, to the figuring of these emblems on stones or monuments erected to their memory.

Instead of the tumuli raised over warriors, in the first and rude state of mankind, these sculptured stones, in a more advanced period of society, became the most distinguished honour paid to the prince or hero. The stile of these would gradually improve, as artists became more expert, or as accidental advantages enabled them to enlarge their ideas, and improve their representations.

In the course of this work, reflections on the annals of the North of *Scotland* will occur, to illustrate the progress of science in the more early periods; and delineations of these ancient sculptures, and hieroglyphical representations, which preceded the knowledge of letters, shall be given, as the most authentic monuments of that progress.

Of these obelisks under consideration, the appendages of the chace are the most general embellishment.

The attendance of Hawks and Eagles, were the earliest marks of princely independence and grandeur, and therefore have become the chosen symbols of chief dignity and power in other countries, as well as in the North of *Scotland*.

In *France*, in the eleventh century, none but the nobility are represented bearing the Hawk. The Monuments now under review, refer to a period nearly as distant.

A bird, probably alluding to the above, is the first figure on the obelisk here engraved; it is perched on a general trophy, which we shall particularly investigate hereafter.

The figure of the Sheep or Bullock, and the Harp, so distinctly marked, strongly imply how much music was esteemed, and that the pasture of the herd and flock was the subject of their great enjoyment.

There is a figure in a peculiar attitude, at the feet of the Monument, with circular instruments in his hands; 'tis probable they represent the cymbal, which, on some particular occasions, might accompany the sound of the horn; or be used as a more alarming noise, to rouse the deer from their secret recesses, and hurry them into the way of the sportsmen: for that they refer to the chace, the vicinity of the hound, the deer, and horseman, leave but little room to doubt.

There are vestiges of a singular kind of figure on the middle part of this Monument, resembling the common representation of an Angel, but much defaced. On some others of these obelisks there are similar figures, some with two wings, some with four. We shall endeavour to trace their origin in a future number.

The ornaments round the margin of this obelisk had been wrought with great mathematical accuracy; and raised with such labour as indicates no small proficiency in the art of sculpture.

Maged 1844

C. Gordon 1844

F A L L of F Y E R S.

STRATH-ERRICK is a peculiar region, lying to the south of *Loch-ness*, which, though consisting of a species of romantic valleys amid very lofty mountains, abounding in good pasture, and corn-fields; yet even the bottoms are very high ground, several hundred yards above the level of the lake.

The rivulets which take their rise amid these mountains, and run through the valleys, as their course is not long, must, from the above cause, be frequently precipitated from considerable heights ere they fall into *Loch-ness*. Of these torrents that which forms the *Fall of Fyers* is the chief. The immense size of the surrounding cliffs contributes to its superior greatness of effect*. The uproar of the waters; and the column of spray, rising, like the smoke of a mighty furnace, high into the air; give to the traveller the first indications of the greatness of the approaching scene. From some projecting cliffs, which overhang the abyss into which the cataract is plunged, the fall is beheld in the most superb plenitude of its effect.

It requires some resolution to come down, through rugged paths, and rocks, and thickets, to that tremendous situation. A late celebrated Doctor acknowledges “he trembled as he advanced.” The gulph beneath is of such dreadful depth, that one shrinks with horror to look into it; while the immeasurable height and extent of the cliffs above, add to the solemnity of the scene.

Doctor *Johnson*, with justice, said, “it strikes the imagination with all the gloom and grandeur of *Siberian* solitude.” The river is observable at a considerable height, gliding between the mountains, encreasing its tumult as it advances amidst the upper precipices, roaring against the oppositions given it by opposing rocks, and struggling for expansion until it approaches the vast precipice which occasions the fall. Here lingering a fullen moment, it hovers over the gulph. The whole weight of water then, poured without resistance from so amazing a height, rushes forth a mighty torrent, dashing the rocks, with horrid noise and impetuosity, in its way.

“It leaves in air a thunder of its own,”

which echoes in dreadful murmurs through the rocky dale.

* See *Tour in Scotland*, 1769, p. 199.

The vast scale on which the whole is laid out, renders this one of the most magnificent prospects, which a mountainous country can present.

The majestic cliffs which here approach each other, towering forth from the sides of the adjacent mountains, and forming the boundaries of the stupendous glen, are encircled with wreaths of stately trees, which thus superbly raised into the horizon, their size gains superior expression and has a peculiar greatness of effect: Those on the lower regions of the mountains, frequently formed into close groves of birches and of pines, darken the hills, and add to the gloom of the deep and solemn shade, wherewith the projecting precipices fill the glen.

The most wild and awful Genius of romantic scenery would seem to have presided over the formation of this wonderful landscape, and to have embellished it with the utmost exertions of her magic power.

De Magell. Sulph.

C A S T L E D U F F U S .

THIS was the principal seat and fortress of the ancient family of the *Moravians*; who long maintained chief rank and dignity in the rich province of *Moray*.—The castle is built in a suitable style of strength for defence and security; as it was probably intended for a *place des armes*, and to contain a force that should overawe the *Norwegian* Buccaneers, who had a fixed residence in the fort of *Burghead**, not many miles distant, and from thence often made depredations on the treasures of cattle and of grain, in which *Moray* abounded.

Friskinus de Moravia, a man of eminence and power, and of distinguished talents, was Earl of *Duffus* in the reign of *David I.* His son obtained a charter from King *William*, anno 1169, confirming his title to all the neighbouring lands possessed by his father *Friskinus*.

This family failing in heirs male, became divided and extinct, and the honours lay dormant for several centuries. But, anno 1650, the proprietor of these lands had a peerage conferred on him, with the title of *Lord Duffus*, by King *Charles II.* The title was forfeited, anno 1715, and is not now revived.

The situation and style of the building, point it out to have been the work of a very early age; there are traditionary accounts of its having been occasionally a residence of King *Duffus*, but whether these narrations are authentic, or have arisen from an accidental coincidence of names, it is not easy now to determine with certainty.

The castle is beautifully situated, on a circular mount on the banks of the loch of *Spinie*. This rising ground, with the castle on its summit, surrounded with venerable trees, forms a picturesque object in a level country.

The mount is encircled with a ditch and rampart, which are still of formidable appearance; the trench, which is very broad, and cut round to a level, is still full of water, and impassable but at the proper mound opposite to the gateway.

Within the walls, on the declivity of the mount, next the loch of *Spinie*, are some excellent garden grounds well laid out, the fruit-trees still in vigour, and bearing apples, pears, gooseberries, &c. From thence there is a pleasing prospect of the luxuriant fields all along the fertile banks of the loch; and on the oppo-

* See *Antiquities and Scenery of Scotland*, page 58 and 128.

site shore, *Spinie Castle*, the ancient seat of the Bishops of *Moray*, makes a magnificent appearance.

The walls of *Duffus Castle* are of amazing thickness, and have small chambers, galleries of communication, and staircases, within the body of the wall; these chambers, above, open into a spacious hall, of about forty-five feet long and thirty wide: the roof being fallen in, it is not easy to ascertain its height. From these circumstances, it is probable, that the castle was built in the eleventh century; for such, from concurring testimonies, was the style of building places of strength, in the neighbouring provinces, at that time.

It is remarkable of this massy ruin, that one large division of the end wall has sunk obliquely into the side of the mount, and by that means is considerably removed from its place; and stands detached, impending over the hill, as if every moment about to fall down: but the mass is so thoroughly concreted, that the front of the wall is still preserved entire, though inclined to a pretty acute angle with the level.

This castle was inhabited in the beginning of this century; but after the year 1715 was neglected, and gradually went to ruin.

C. Corduner pinx

P. Magell Sculp

MONUMENTS in ROSS-SHIRE.

Communications in the same channel by which the knowledge of Christianity was conveyed, probably gave rise to the various emblematical figures on these obelisks. The missionaries from the church of *Rome*, bringing their missals and other books along with them, artists would have access to see them.—By the taste of the times, these books from the continent were in general illuminated with various paintings. The piety of the new converts adopted these as the chief embellishments for their monumental stones.—The figures in praying postures on the fragment at A, and those at a. a, seem to have been similar ones, or angels bending at the Cross.—The Cross itself, highly embellished, as the chosen symbol of the Divine mercy, communicated by the knowledge of Christianity—the figure of St. *Andrew* on the cross, twice repeated, as at B. B—and, above all, the sacred emblem of the Dove, seemingly suspending the consecrated wafer—bear evident testimony in favour of the above opinion.

But there is on this monument a still more singular expression of that line of communication, in the ornamental knots at each side, near the crosses of St. *Andrew*. Their distinguished appearance there, is no mean proof of their being something more than an adventitious ornament. Its striking resemblance to the knots, that were among the first badges of knighthood, is very observable. It was established as the ensign of renown in arms in the thirteenth century, and its honours were revived with additional splendor by *Henry III. of France*, in 1574.

Narrations of the honours of that Order, who, inspired with holy zeal, had led the Crusades for the recovery of *Jerusalem* out of the hands of infidels, would be a favourite theme with the *Coledai's*, who wished to spread the triumphs of the Cross, which aggrandized their banners; and, while they pointed at the knot as a badge of honour, would connect the idea of it with that of sacred esteem. It enriched the garments of saints and heroes; and thence became a conspicuous ornament on their tombs and portraits, and of course would find a place even in sacred volumes. When thus celebrated as an emblem of pious renown, it is not to be doubted but the *Caledonian* hero, equally devout in his ambition, would be fond to adorn his monument with such a device. Here it is variously repeated, opposite to e.

Several of the monuments under consideration have a Boar, at least an animal more resembling that than any other, figured as the capital trophy: on others, it is represented as devouring smaller animals like lambs, and sometimes as tearing human figures. The daring sportsman, who was fortunate enough to destroy some of these formidable animals, would be proud of having such a memorial

of

of his prowess perpetuated by sculpture. Hence it became a crest, when armorial ensigns came into vogue.

But whether the figuring of that animal on these stones originated from the state of *Caledonia* itself, and the circumstances alluded to above ; or was borrowed from delineations brought from the continent, in the channel already specified, may not perhaps be positively determined ; but the custom of placing the effigies of ferocious animals, as well as domestic and emblematical ones, at the feet of saints and heroes, was prevalent, at the æra of these, on the continent. Resemblances of the lion and wolf, the dog and lamb, are often so placed on monuments carved in *France*, in the 11th and 12th centuries. Examples of these may be seen in the LVth and other plates of the *English* translation of *Montfaucon's* Antiquities.

We need not therefore be surprised at the awkward and seemingly unsuitable appearance of the two strange animals at the feet of the figures on the fragment marked A. They may be placed there as animals of use, or as an emblem of plenty : in some countries a herd of swine was considered as substantial wealth. It is not probable that they can here have any religious allusion ; for, whatever might have been the case in the system of *Druidism*, they can have no reference to the rites of Christianity, to which the central emblems of this piece of sculpture evidently apply.

These obelisks seem to have been sometimes raised by the vanity of the living, as a monument of their fame and power, and perhaps more frequently so than as any memorial of the dead ; for there never is any emblem of mortality on them.

The principal stone figured in this plate, marked II, is still in great preservation, firmly fixed on a rising ground, surrounded with steps : it is but a few hundred yards distant from the sea-shore * ; and on the adjacent rocks there are remains of a castellated house, called *Sandwick*. Within the circle of a few miles, in that district, are many similar monuments ; but most of the others are either fallen down or broken, however many curious fragments of them are still to be seen.

That as at d, expresses the nature of several of the circular ornaments, which on others are much obliterated, as at D. The animals devouring others, at C, &c. give scope for animadversion—but this article has already exceeded its due bounds.

* See the Reverse of this Monument, Antiquities and Scenery of *Scotland*, plate xii. page 65.

Echinacea purpurea

Echinacea purpurea

TERRELL

T E R E B E L L Æ.

THESE elegant animals, which inhabit the Serpulæ* or “tubular shells adhering to other bodies,” are of most delicate texture, and of a semi-transparent substance: when spreading over the white incrustations of the stones on which they have their residence, they resemble concentric circles of some thin fluid, of beautiful dyes, in colour like a rainbow.

B. B. A piece of stone dredged up in forty fathom water, incrustated over with various shells, corallines, &c.

b. b. Several appearances of the Terebellæ, issuing forth from their shells.

a. The natural size of a full-grown one, thoroughly spread: magnified at A.

When more than one day kept without a change of water, they evidently began to languish and decay; their beauty and vigour became equally impaired;—on the change of water, particularly when perfectly pure, and recently brought from the sea, they revived, seemed reanimated with fresh health and spirits, spread and moved their tentacula with renewed activity.

An inference here is obvious; that they draw their nourishment and life from the purest water in the highest degree; therefore must exist on atoms or animalcules in it, which no eye can see, and which perhaps no microscope could discover: their fine tentacula are admirably contrived for arresting these as they pass along; the exquisite mechanism of their structure being no less replete with evidences of wise design, than their beauty is expressive of power and goodness incomprehensible at the head of the Creation.

It may be said of these, with equal propriety as it was, from high authority, of the “lilies of the field,” that “Solomon, in all his glory, was not arrayed like one of these;” and the intelligent spectator, with veneration and hallowed joy, adopts the rational appeal—the natural effusion of gratitude and of elevated thought—

CAUSE and SUPPORT of all things!—can I view
These objects of my wonder? can I feel
These fine sensations, and not think of THEE?

• See Br. Zool. vol. IV. plate xci.

P. Mayall sculp.

C. Gardner pinx.

R O C K O F D U N B Y.

DUNBY is a lofty insulated rock, near to modern *Slains Castle*; seven miles south from *Peterhead*; the eastmost point of *Scotland*.

It is an immense, rugged, and precipitous set of cliffs, some hundred yards detached from the main land, and rising from deep water, in pyramidal columns, to some hundred feet in height.

The rock is in many places level at top, and has soil upon it in the middle, to an extent of about an acre of ground. Sometimes sets of sheep and goats are carried up to feed upon it; and the singularity of their situation then adds considerably to the charms of the other uncommon appearances of the scene.

This vast mass of rock has an open vault, that passes wholly through it: the rock above is formed into a most majestic and ponderous arch; it is awful to sail even nearly under it. The impending cliffs, seemingly hung in air, and yawning with hideous chasms, that appear to detach them from the parent rock, look as if their every change of shadow was the warning of their approaching fall, when they would tumble down, and be buried in the ocean: yet they resist the storm and tempest, and the raging of the sea, immoveable and unshaken.

One side of the rock has a species of declivity less rugged and precipitous than the others; there it may be climbed up, by those practised in climbing rocks; by others, with extreme difficulty and danger. The higher parts of the other sides of the rock, especially of that spacious and lofty front which spreads towards the sea, are almost altogether inaccessible by human art; every shelve of these cliffs is therefore wholly occupied with *Kittywakes*, and with their nests in summer; for they never breed where instinct tells them that human artifice can disturb the dwelling of their young.

The throng of birds, that are here perched on the crowded nests, is so innumerable, that if, on approaching the rock with a boat, a fowling-piece be discharged, the air, without a hyperbole, is absolutely darkened by the flight on wing, which, alarmed with the noise, for a minute or two leave their young.

It is customary for fowling parties to go and bring down the young birds (the season is about the middle of summer) ere they have taken wing, or got to the sea to feed: for in that tender state they are considered by numbers as a delicious morsel. If they are killed outright by the fire, they must remain on the cliff in the nest: A weak shot, with small lead, must therefore be consulted, so as only se-

verely to wound ; on receiving it, the young birds spring up and flutter, and by these struggles are tumbled over the shelve, fall into the sea, and are picked up by the boat-men.

Frequently the parent birds, that on the first alarm flew away, return, on apprehending that dangers are encompassing their infant charge. They return, to yield them protection, and to share their fate—and they often do more than share it.

Sensible of the above frequently-practised stratagem to obtain and destroy their defenceless progeny, some of the most courageous and affectionate parent birds perch on the edge of the nest, and interpose their wings between the fowler and his aim. He cannot gain his end but by wounding the parent also.—How little to be envied would the feelings of that person be, who could discharge a fowling-piece, and transmit the leaden deaths in such a line !

When the weather is fine, the insulated and perforated cliffs—the vast grottos and caverns underneath—and stately columns of rock rising from the deep, along these bold and precipitous shores—yield the most noble and charming field of picturesque scenery to amuse a sea excursion.

The more general tranquillity and increasing light of earliest day, is most favourable to shew these rocks in the fullest effect of their majestic beauty. The level rays of the morning, sparkling along the waves, reflecting the light in ever-varying and animating forms of brightness—the diversity of orient and ruddy tints that spring from the glowing tiara of dissolving clouds, which commonly encircle and precede the splendors of the rising sun—the deep gradations, and the length of shade thrown from the projecting and suspended cliffs, and darkening into the caverns solemn gloom—have in them an awful and commanding charm, for the delight of all who can rise to contemplate and admire the native majesty of the works of creation.

J. M. G. 1840

J. M. G. 1840

RUTHVEN CASTLE.

FROM *Coriarch*, a most majestic and lofty mountain, which overlooks the region of *Fort Augustus*, at the head of *Lochness*, there is a most romantic and pleasant ride through the valleys which form the banks of the *Spey*; a river that has enriched with its waters some of the most beautiful farms that a highland country can exhibit. The *Spey*, some miles from *Coriarch*, tumbles through *Carava-more*, or "The Valley of Rough-fords;" it then glides gently, for some miles, through flat meadowy grounds; and spreads the whole width of the valley at "*Au-loch-au-Uvie*," opposite to *Crag-Ku*, the *Black-Rock*. Large hawks and eagles breed on the cliffs of that rock; for the precipices towards the river are of immense height, and almost inaccessible;—the shepherd boys, however, sometimes gather the eggs, and seize on the young birds, by suspending one another from the top with ropes, and letting the adventurer down to the shelves on which the nests are built. There having filled his basket, he is drawn up again.

Following the course of the *Spey*, after having passed the *Black-Rock*, one opens a prospect of a fine champaign level country, still bounded however by picturesque and lofty mountains. This plain contains some of the most fertile farms of *Badenoch*, a province belonging to the Duke of *Gordon*. The Inn of *Pilmain* is on one of the richest and most extensive farms, and is therefore plentifully supplied with every article desirable to travellers, and is fitted up with the best accommodations; and being in a situation of singular importance to Highland journeys, it is much frequented in the summer season.

Ruthven Castle is within view of the Inn, not two miles distant. The ruins are extensive, occupying the whole area of the top of a large circular mount, which rises in a peculiarly distinct and uniform manner from the level field that surrounds it: it is on all sides near equally steep, and about thirty yards high. A deep trench has been cut round the foot of the hill; this seems to have been always a chief object in their system of defence.

On the verge of the declivity, at top, a massy rampart is constructed, enclosing the court of buildings.

The peculiar form and so proper size of this mount must have made it to be esteemed a most suitable situation for the comfort and security of a family of distinction and of power, in an early age, when their safety and peace in a great measure

measure depended on the protection which the strength of their walls, and the force of the garrison, afforded.

In the beginning of this century there were ruins of a very ancient castle on it. In 1718 these were made the quarry, to aid in building a more extensive new one. This was done at the expence of government, to constitute it a *place d'armes*, where a garrison might reside, to keep in-awe the clans of those parts, which at that time had the spirit prevalent among them of nowise submitting to the yoke of regular government. As the walls are mostly all standing entire, numbers of large apartments are observable: the officers had been spaciouly lodged; and the barracks would accommodate a hundred men with ease. In August 1745 it was assaulted by a numerous body of the Highland army, but without effect. In 1746, however, they carried a similar attack, and set the buildings on fire; and it has not since that time been repaired.

The former castle was of old a famous hunting-seat. It is situated in a country renowned for the splendid entertainments of the chase. *Queen Mary* is said to have frequently indulged in the pleasures of hunting in the neighbouring forests. There is shewn a rocky mount, which is called "*Stroan ne Paren*," Carn Queen, at which she either pitched her tent, or had other temporary residence; and it became celebrated as the place where the royal personage was wont to be seen.

John Taylor, a man of some descriptive talents, in an account of his journey to the *North of Scotland*, which he calls a *Pennilefs Pilgrimage*, makes particular mention of the entertainments he met with in this corner.

"Having spent," says he, "certain days (anno 1618) in hunting in the *Brae of Marr*, we went to the next county, called *Badenoch*, belonging to the Earl of *Engie*, where having such sport and entertainment as we formerly had, after four or five days pastime, we took leave of hunting for the year; and took our journey toward a strong house of the Earl's, called *Rubven in Badenoch*, where my Lord of *Engie*, and his noble Countess (being daughter to the Earl of *Argyle*) did give us most noble welcome three days."

M A I D E N S T O N E.

THIS remarkable obelisk, figured at A A 2, stands erected on an eminence, half way up the hill of *Ben-a-chie*, contiguous to a small *Danish* fort, called *The Maiden Castle* *. *Ben-a-chie* is a steep and lofty mountain in the county of *Marr*, about twenty miles north of *Aberdeen*.

This monument is most elaborately carved; and, being a hard grey granite, of nearly fifteen feet in length, must have been difficult to form; and the raising of the ornaments, and various sculptures, so accurately on it, must have been the work of much perseverance and care. Near to where it is inserted in the ground, the stone originally has had a break; for the moulding runs in the direction of the fracture, and swells again where the stone begins to resume its breadth.

It has from time immemorial been called *The Maiden Stone*; and has, no doubt, been erected in memory of the lady who dwelt in the contiguous tower, called *The Maiden Castle*.

That it has been placed in memory of a female is probable, because there are no trophies of warlike achievement, nor emblems of the chase, upon it: but at the foot A 2, it is distinguished by two figures, which may represent a mirror and a comb.

Mr. Gordon, in his *Itinerarium Septentrionale*, as already quoted, has attempted to give a representation of this stone, but with little care, and consequently little success; for the resemblance of the figures is very inaccurately taken. And he has not even risked a conjecture concerning their import, which is the more remarkable, as he is sufficiently diffuse on others less singular than this.

A A 2 is the south-east, or front view of it. B B 2 the reverse, which is covered over with waving ornaments, inclosing a cross at the top; some of their turnings are considerably elegant, as at B 2. The edges also of the obelisk are elaborately carved with well-disposed mathematical figures; the one in particular with a series of *St. Andrew's* crosses, inscribed in ovals, which have a rich and pleasant effect.

A boar, or some resembling animal, seems chosen as the trophy at top, and under that a figure frequent on these monuments, which shall be investigated hereafter.

In the third division D, is a remarkable form, like some strange and uncouth animal. This hieroglyphic, whatever it import, is represented in one shape or other on almost every one of these northern obelisks. The intention of the assemblage of figures accompanying the *Maiden Stone*, is to exhibit at one view the variety of forms in which this emblem appears.

C is the simplest of these figures: it is a mere outline engraved on a hard stone, of about six feet long, which had stood erect, but is broken down, and lies near the hamlet of *Golspie*, in *Sutherland*, a little way to the south of *Dun-robin Castle* *. As at D, on the *Maiden Stone*, it is better raised, and formed by more flowing lines. These are near two hundred miles distant from each other. There are others in the intermediate counties.

F and G are in *Ross-shire*. The stone E is in *Moray*, and is placed at the door of the kirk of *Dyke*, near to *Brodie*, a few miles west from *Forres*, where stands the most superb of all these obelisks. F and E are richly ornamented, and may lead to the allusion with a more striking degree of certainty.

These emblems in general have been suggested to the *Caledonian* artists (according to the line of communication formerly alluded to) by paintings and illuminations of manuscript books, brought over from the continent by the first preachers of Christianity.

From the earliest ages, in the East, elephants were held in veneration: they were the renowned warriors of ancient times. It gave immortal honour to the daring knight who engaged in battle, and overthrew the huge opponent. The prowess of this enormous animal was justly celebrated. It was figured with every distinguishing mark of grandeur and importance. The representation of it became the emblem of dignity, and strength, and power.

Elephants shared in the pride and glory of the most splendid processions; the figure of them became the symbol of pomp and triumph.

At public exhibitions, in honour of Christianity, elephants, richly caparisoned, often led the pageant†. This circumstance would tend to make the emblem sacred. As the emblem of a triumphal procession of a Christian prince, it would be well represented by some artists;—by others in an incorrect manner, and divested of the local circumstances which gave birth to the pageantry. Something of the form, and embroidered ornaments of its covering, would be preserved by the most unskilful pencil; and when drawn with more regard to emblematical embellishment, than to the truth of nature, would readily fall into forms resembling those on the *Caledonian* monuments.

When on a missal, or book of saints and heroes, a prince with his eagle is figured on one page—an elephant procession in the next—and a *St. Andrew* in another; did they not naturally become the chosen subjects of embellishment for the monument of any person of eminence in *Scotland*, who had lately adopted and revered the truths of *Christianity*?

And it is the fact, with regard to the *Caledonian* obelisks, if we find the Cross, adorned with various flowerings, on the one side, we meet with the ornamented Elephant portrayed on the other.

* *Antiquities and Scenery*, p. 72.

† *Montfaucon's Antiquities of France*, plate ccl. ccli.

P. Marshall sculp.

DORIS LEUROMELA.

C. leucomela, pinn.

D O R I S L E M O N.

THIS worm, distinguished by its peculiarly beautiful tentacula, is evidently a species of N° 22. class vi. Plate xxii. page 36. British Zoology, vol. iv.—Descrip. “Of a lemon colour, marked with numerous punctures;”—and where *Mr. Pennant* particularly mentions those elegant ramifications, which attracted singular attention when making the drawing of this plate.

That beautiful plumage, (if the use of such language be allowable, when applied to the inhabitants of the deep) which it spreads forth with such varied elegance and comeliness of form, has so much resemblance to the rays or tentacula which surround the mouths of several other marine animals, that there is hardly occasion to hesitate in pronouncing them “the apparatus appointed of nature, and by its great Author, for enclosing the atoms that float along with the tide, and which must constitute its nourishment and food. These ramifications, this waving foliage, are therefore an extensive system of active nets, animated, and alive to the most subtle sensations, the instincts of the animal pervading their utmost extremities, with a knowledge of the articles most salutary, best calculated for their sustenance. The idea is no less expressive with respect to these than to the web of the spider, of which *Mr. Pope* has justly sung the delicacy of touch—

* “ ————— that, exquisitely fine,

“ Feels thro’ each thread, and lives along the line.”

This spacious display of living foliage, A, is wholly retractile; the animal can withdraw it completely from view: when this is to be effected, the waving plumage divides into separate ramifications; which severally descend through an ornamental circle of apertures; whose general appearance, in the worm’s alarmed state, is delineated at a.

By this provision of nature, the so useful and delicate apparatus for attracting its food is occasionally lodged safe under cover of a tough and thick skin, and is thus protected from numberless dangers, to which it might otherwise be frequently exposed, during assaults of enemies or violence of weather.

* Essay on Man, Epistle i. ver. 218.

When

When in perfect quiet and composure it first puts forth these tentacula ; they appear in a more regular form, as at B. But as soon as they begin to move round in the water, they are bended and unfolded, as a most beautiful waving foliage, and assume the fine feathered appearance of C.

The feelers *d d* are also retractile, and curiously formed, as magnified at D. The apertures through which they stretch themselves are tuberculated round ; and apparently shut when the feeler is retracted. But the province they fill, in administering to the comfort and existence of the animal, is a discussion not to be ventured on in the limits of this article.

J. Mayall del.

G. Gardner sculp.

SPINIE CASTLE.

THE diocese of *Moray* was one of the largest in *Scotland*, extending from the river *Beaulieu*, which separates *Ross* from *Invernesshire*, to the confines of the county of *Mar*.

The cathedral of this diocese, in the beginning of the thirteenth century, was ordained by the order of Pope *Innocent* to be at *Spinie*. On an application of the Catholic clergy established in *Moray*, he deputed the Bishops of *Brechin* and *St. Andrew's* to go to the place, and issue the promulgation, "that the church of the Holy Trinity at *Spinie* be the cathedral of the diocese, in all time coming."

But *Andrew* Bishop of *Moray*, anno 1224, represented to his Holiness, that *Spinie* was too retired a situation for the chief house of prayer; and therefore solicited a mandate to establish the cathedral at *Elgin*. *Alexander* King of *Scotland* seconded the message; and an order came, deputing the Bishop of *Caithness* and the Abbot of *Kinloss* to solemnize the desired translation; and accordingly, on the 19th of *July* 1224, the foundation stone of that temple was laid, of which there are such noble and magnificent remains. Soon as the building of that sumptuous cathedral was considerably advanced, a concomitant object, next in importance to the dignified clergy, was a palace for the Bishop, in whose honours and opulence they shared; accordingly, part of the ample treasures of the church was dedicated to that purpose. They scarce could have fixed on a more delightful situation than where the building stands;—a view of its now ruined state is presented in the plate accompanying these anecdotes.

The court, an area of sixty yards square, extends over the declivity of a rising ground, fronting the south-east, on the banks of the *Loch of Spinie*: the surrounding soil, down to the water's edge, is rich, warm, and dry.

The elevated situation of the castle gives it to command an extensive prospect of some of the most luxuriant fields of that fine province; the river *Loffie* winding through, until the view is bounded by the most sublime of all objects, the ocean stretching along the horizon.

Among the adjacent lands, the plantations round *Innes House*, a seat belonging to the *Earl of Fife*, claim particular notice:—the orchard and enclosures in a high state of cultivation; and his plantings, which begin to clothe the neighbouring hills with wood, add greatly to the beauty of the landscape. On the other hand, the rude remains of *Duffus Castle*, and the vast cathedral heaving its ruined pile into the sky, insinuate the ancient importance of these domains.

The large tower of *Spinie Castle* has evidently been built as a place of strength and defence: it is vaulted throughout all the apartments to the top; and on it is placed a watch tower, with a battlement round it.

The gateway to the east is strongly fortified; and the enormous portcullis, of massy iron, bears awful testimony to the age of danger in which it was hung. The clergy could not avoid sometimes sharing in the feuds and civil commotions of the country, and were therefore under the necessity of preparing for themselves places of refuge and security in troublous times. But their policy and piety had been judiciously mixed with thoughts of recreation; for opposite to the chapel, between the eastern gate and the great tower, there are conspicuous vestiges of a spacious tennis-court.

Over the great gate is carved a shield, with three stars; and the year marked, M.CCCC.VI. This must have been, therefore, added a century after the large tower and its appendages were built.

If it tend to give any additional importance to the remains of this ancient residence, to know that it could boast of a possessor of the royal line—*Alexander (Stewart)* son of *Alexander Duke of Albany*, who was a son of King *James II.* was Bishop of *Moray*, and a Prince in *Spinie Palace*, near to the middle of the sixteenth century, or about 1535.

F. May, del. July

2. 1840. 1841

TOWER and ROCK of CRAGGAN.

MAR-FOREST affords a circle of about fifty miles, which contains a most mountainous tract of country, abounding in excellent pasture for deer, and cover for game, which has been dedicated, from time immemorial, by its noble owners, to the pleasures of the chace in the hunting season. This is the most central district in *Scotland*, and comprehends some of the loftiest mountains and most rugged glens that are the picturesque and distinguishing characteristics of the highland countries. On advancing into these Alpine regions, from the east coast, along the banks of the *Dee*, there is a delightful and entertaining ride all the way.

Pananach-Lodge, near to the lofty rocks which form the pass of *Boliter*, and constitute one grand entrance into the Highlands, is an excellent resting-place; and in the summer season is the resort of much company, who assemble to take the benefit of the mineral-water baths, and goat whey; whose salutary effects, aided by the pureness of the air, have been long experienced.

The road thence to *Brae-mar Castle* is no less pleasant and amusing, from the uncommon variety of the prospects wherewith one is surrounded, mingling every rural and majestic beauty of landscape in alternate succession, and often united in the same view: charming little farms, embellishing the banks of the river and the skirts of the hills, form a pleasing contrast with the dark groves of pines, and bare brows of the rugged rocks appearing above; the bright blue tops of the distant mountains terminating the scene.

A few miles above *Brae-mar Castle*, *Craggan* rock (which marks the commencement of the *Earl of Fife's* so ample forest) stretches down from a lofty mountain, almost projecting into the *Dee*, forming a boundary to some meadow grounds; which, with the hamlets of those who have the charge of the crop scattered along the foot of the hill—a saw-mill at the opening of the adjacent romantic valley of *Glen-quoich*—and the rocky regions which form it—all together exhibit a profusion of picturesque images, and of various landscape.

The channel between the precipices which form the entrance into *Glen-quoich*, is worn deep to their foundations, by the torrents rushing through; and consti-

tutes enclosures of rock—amphitheatres of solitude, in which one seems to enter into the sublime of retirement, and complete seclusion from the world.

A road is effecting round the brow of the mountain which rises from *Craggan* tower, and separates *Glen-quoich* from the valley where *Mar Lodge* is situated, which is to wind through a large district of these wilds, and will yield a ride amidst fine assemblages of unusual scenery. On ascending this mountain to its summit (which is, however, a work of labour) one obtains a most extensive view of these Alpine regions. It is grand and elevating to behold the vast range of mountains that are spread around, majestic, wild, and desolate; the trees of other ages adding hoary greatness to the tops of the rocks; the clouds in misty wreaths, mingling amid the dreadful shades of their gigantic brows, frowning under regions of snow, and where vegetation is for ever denied.—On the other hand, the *Dee*, with many a serpentine turn, gliding through the rich and extensive valley of *Dale-more*—that spacious plain, encircled with the deeper verdure of the waving forests, and crowded groves, which shade the winding banks of the river—together with the neat hunting-seat, which *Lord Fife* has adorned with so much taste—charm and refresh the eye, amidst the boundless prospect of uncultivated hills.

Corduner fecit

D. Magell. sculp.

OBELISK at GOLSPIE.

DUNROBIN Castle, the seat of the family of *Sutherland*, beautifully situated on the banks of the Firth of *Dornock*, lies opposite to *Tarbet-ness*; where are to be seen some of the most sumptuous of these ancient *Caledonian* monuments. The village of *Golspie* lies a few miles up the Firth from *Dunrobin Castle*; and soon as Christianity obtained a footing in these parts, as the religion of the country, there was a chapel built at *Golspie*, dedicated to *St. Andrew*, the tutelar saint of *Scotland*; and near the ground on which the chapel stood, amid the remains of other carved monuments, there is one on which the figures are but little obliterated; and a representation of them is given in the annexed plate.

The figure of a man, on the right, holds a cross in his one hand, and before it stands a post or pole, as a barrier betwixt him and a ferocious animal, something resembling an ill-shaped boar. These emblems, and the attitude, would seem to imply, that the cross would be his safeguard, though attacked by wild beasts in all their fury; a tenet which would be a natural suggestion from the doctrine of the first preachers of Christianity. This man in the other hand holds a knife, pointing to a fish, which is in all probability a salmon, alluding to the early importance in which the capture of them was held. Here it is peculiarly applicable, because the monument is situated near to one of the most gently gliding rivers in *Sutherland*, in which plenty of that valuable fish are caught. This man would seem to spurn at the sports of the field, symbolized by the head of a deer, as less worthy of his care than the salmon. From the hieroglyphic over him (admitting the remarks given in the former Number to have validity sufficient to establish the import of that strange form) it may, in this symbolical style of writing, imply his great renown; and that those who caused this monument to be erected to his memory, wished him to be esteemed no less remarkable in the annals of Fame, than the visionary exploits of the *Danish* Knights of the order of the *Elephant* had reported them to be;—for that narrations concerning this order, along with other historical anecdotes, would be conveyed by the frequent communications betwixt the countries, is not to be doubted; and the insignia of knighthood, of course, held in high estimation.

The ornament at the top of this, and several others of these carved stones, have some peculiarities, which merit a particular discussion; which, with the connected circles, and other embellishments under the figures described, must be the subject of future disquisitions, with plates, when these emblems may be placed together, and compared. For no remarks on any one of these ornaments would be sufficient to establish the theory of their allusion; of which an observer will be readily convinced, by looking at the plate, when told that the carving at the top is intended to represent the figure of a crown.

ACCULEATED APHRODITE.

R. Marshall sculp.

R. Marshall sculp.

ACULEATED APHRODITE.

IN Class VI. N° 25, of Worms, this remarkable one is specified by Mr. *Pennant*, and emphatically described “cloathed on the back with short brown fur, the sides with rich pavonaceous green hairs, mixed with sharp spines; each foot consists of a faciculus of spines, and on each side about thirty-six; grows to the length of between four and five inches.” The representation therefore in the plate A A, is the full-grown size of the animal; and after the above, it is only needful more minutely to dissect its structure, and describe its distinguishing peculiarities, than could have been consistent with the plan of a general system.

When one fortunately falls in with this worm in full health and beauty, the gorgeous cloathing which adorns its sides, when seen near the surface of the water, and glittering in the day, has in it a charming brightness and lustre, with which few even of the works of Nature can compare. The varying glossy dyes that shine on the breast and neck of the Dove, and the finest of the Peacock’s plumage, glow not with greater variety of prismatic tints, than beam from the floating surface of the rich cloathing of this worm.—The pavonaceous hairs, which compose this gorgeous mantle, are perforated as human hair, but of an exceedingly finer texture and superior polish.

“Each foot consists of a faciculus of spines,” disposed with elegance and uniformity of order; as at B B B, e f g, where the extremity of the feet, with their claws, are magnified in several views. The most numerous row of spines, e e, are generally nine in number; the second row almost invariably five, as at f f; and the exterior claw, if it may be so called, is furnished with three spines of greater strength and size than the others, g g g. At a little distance from the spines, on the outside of each foot, there is a spur of a horny substance, but more soft and gristly than the spines; it is pointed out by the letters d d d. A front view of the order of the spines is given at D.

The largest spines, when extracted from the feet, are from half an inch to a whole inch in length, G; and when examined by the microscope, are seen to be very finely pointed, and more polished than the finest needle with which they are compared. They have in general the appearance of burnished steel, heated to a
purple

purple tinge, as fishing-hooks ; but when very highly magnified, are seen to have some transparency, like amber, and grooves in their sides ; and have therefore a striking resemblance to the quills of the procupine, as G g.

But there is yet another singularity in this wonderful claw, that may still require a more particular illustration. When the feet are dissected, in the middle of each there is found a tubular spine, of a bright yellow, like fine brass, and semi-transparent. With this tubular spine, represented at E, the other solid ones are connected by cartilaginous substances, which spread as muscular fibres into the body of the animal.

The spines of the central claw are the whole length of the tubular one, united at the end ; but the others spring from a joint in the middle, as pointed out at i k of E and F. On the skin, without this joint, is placed the spur d d.

It is probable that the cavity of the tubular spine may be a conveyance through which Nature has appointed it to extract juices from those substances which it can penetrate with its spines ; for a wonderful œconomy is observable in the structure of that implement. But their manner of life is so reluctantly practised, when they suffer all the inconveniencies of change of pasture and climate, which they must do ere they come under human inspection, that it is no wonder we should be sometimes at a loss to determine the use and importance of their surprising faculties.

The above may appear too minute an investigation of the foot of a sea-worm ; but it is these minutiae in the structure of marine bodies which remains to be disclosed.

PLUSCARDIN ABBEY.

THE valley of *Pluscardin*, now belonging to the Earl of *Fife*, is of several miles extent, stretching up among the hills, about an hour's ride distant, to the south of the town of *Elgin*. It was devoted by *Alexander II.* King of *Scotland*, in the thirteenth century, along with several other adjacent lands, to the support of those religious orders, whose establishments were not only the means of diffusing the knowledge of the Supreme, as manifested by the great Author of Christianity; and of cultivating those pieties of the heart, which promote and encourage every better disposition—but their abodes were also the seminaries of art and science; agriculture and industry were encouraged by the monasteries, however the sacred teachers might delight in holy ease and in contemplative leisure. These royal establishments were often seconded by the nobility; and the monasteries and convents were supported by ample endowments. The rich province of *Moray*, and the environs of *Elgin*, were peculiarly distinguished by the sumptuous stile and extent of their religious buildings. The dwellings belonging to a convent of *Franciscan* Friars, in *Elgin*, established also by *Alexander II.* are many of them still habitable, and afford spacious apartments: and the remains of the adjoining church are highly ornamental, in a noble Gothic stile.

The establishment at *Pluscardin* was a priory: the Prior, a Lord of Regality within his demesne: the holy brethren in the precincts were accountable to him alone: he was temporal and spiritual judge, and administered discipline with or without the concurrence of the Bishop of *Moray*.

The stately remains of the numerous buildings adjoining to the church, stretch down a declivity at the opening of the valley, with a fine exposure to the sun, and protected from the north by a lofty hill. The walls, inclosing a very fertile field, and forming an ample square, still mark, with the hoary solemnity of moss-grown ruins, those boundaries, without which none but the dignified clergy had a right to go. But this choice field might yield the cloistered monks both recreation and pleasure; and, in their state of holy seclusion from the world, they had need of the labours and entertainments of the garden, to revive and refresh their minds for sacred contemplation. The delicacies of the garden too, thus reared by their toil, would yield but harmless luxuries and healthful repasts, to comfort them in those
E
penitential

penitential days of abstinence from animal food, to whose observation they were solemnly bound.

On *Grange Hill* there was a cell of Monks belonging to this priory, who “*went about doing good,*” not being confined as the claustral ones. Each of these, besides cloathing, and money to purchase separate articles, had an allowance of about twenty bolls of meal yearly; so that, as their vow of a final relinquishment of all the vanities and delights of life could not admit of that extravagance which the desire of luxuries occasions, they would have abundance to give to the stranger and the fatherless, while, after the example of their Divine Instructor, they administered the consolations of the gospel to the poor. It will give some idea of the extensive revenue dedicated to this priory, to remark, that, besides monied rent nearly equal, they were yearly served with seventy chalders of victual, and two hundred barrels of salmon.

At the Reformation, the Earl of *Dumfermline* obtained the superiority, rent, and patronage of *Pluscardin*, 1595; the property was disposed to the Earl of *Caitbness*, 1662; and, being purchased, in the beginning of the following century, by his ancestors, continues in the possession of the Earl of *Fife*, who is at all manner of pains to prevent the venerable remains of that ruined pile of sacred buildings from falling into farther decay—a circumstance of respect to these splendid monuments of the original establishments of Christianity in the country, which has been too little studied.

P. Mangell Sculp.

C. Condener pinx.

GLEN-MORE-ISTOON.

THE ride from *Inverness* to *Fort Augustus*, by the north side of *Loch-ness*, is no less picturesque and amusing than that on the south. The first stage is in the pleasant valley of *Glen-Urquhart*, where the loch widens into a bay; the next is in *Glen-more-istoon*, i. e. "The Valley of steep Rocks."

There is a native wildness in these characteristic appellations, which distinguishes those remote districts no less than the rugged appearance of the scenery; and implies something of an original state of country, which enhances the entertainment of travelling through it. The mountains which form the boundary of the loch between these glens, are lofty, rugged, and precipitous; the declivities from the cliffs are nobly clothed with timber; amidst these the torrents, foaming in their deep-worn channels, are only discoverable by their spray, though they are ever commanding attention by their ceaseless roar.

One of these, which shews itself more remarkably among the trees, is called *Alkens*, "The Stream of Firs:" where it falls from the cliffs, a stone arch is thrown over it, which they call *Trochet-ne-creiketrenish*, "The Bridge of the Rock of Woods."

The craggy front of the one mountain which bounds *Glen-more-istoon*, where it opens to *Loch-ness*, consisting of vast cliffs of horrid grandeur frowning over the glen, is called *Craig-Kinian*, "The Giants Rock." On the other side, a very steep and high hill, towering up into a peak of rock, projecting to the south, has received the appellation of *Stroan-Muich*, "The Swine's Snout;" though it is very probable it may surpass the compass of the traveller's fancy to trace the resemblance.

In the opening into *Glen-more-istoon* there is an extensive range of regular buildings, which one is rather surprised to find in so wild and remote a situation. It was an institution of the trustees for the management of the forfeited estates, to encourage the industry of the *Highland* lasses, to instruct them in a superior stile of spinning, and other domestic arts, on purpose to render their time of greater value, and shew them the benefits of diligence and activity—a lesson they still want much to learn: for these buildings are now only useless monuments of a laudable design, and are not the seat of any considerable manufacture, which suitable attention might certainly render them.

The Fall of the river *More-istoon* is about a mile from where it runs into *Loch-nefs*. There is here a much larger body of water than that which constitutes the *Fall of Fyers*; and the rocks being farther asunder, the torrent has a wider spread, and is separated by a large rock in its fall. This is not precipitated from such a height, nor is the surrounding scenery entirely so magnificent as that of the other; but will perhaps, in general, be viewed with no less pleasure. One can advance near enough to see the full effect of this noble cascade, without leaving the level walks on the banks of the river; a circumstance which would weigh with numbers against the more awful scale on which the glen of *Fyers* is laid out, but which must be seen from less comfortable situations.

Here also an additional subject of some amusement is frequently met with— young lads, furnished with pikes, and poles with large hooks on them, make an advantageous recreation of catching the salmon which attempt to spring up the Fall: unconscious of its insurmountable height, they repeat these unavailing efforts, until some of those, who have attained dexterity in the art of striking them with the dart, will in a few hours bring ten or a dozen of them to the bank.

CARVED STONE at *DYKE*,

A N D

TIARAS of different NATIONS.

THE ornament at the top of the obelisk represented in the plate of the former Number, and here made the central figure at top, is one of the most elegant of these trophies, that occupy the more distinguished departments of these monuments. When these are compared together, they have no such general resemblance as would characterise them to be of one and the same import; yet they apparently have such distinguishing features as may enable those who peruse them with attention, and are a little acquainted with the stile in which even familiar objects are represented, in the ancient sculptures and drawings of rude ages, to trace their origin and reference, and the archetypes from whence they are derived. In this plate are therefore given two concomitant rows of figures, between which there is such evident uniformity and correspondence in design, as would be very unaccountable, if the one set had not, by some means or other, been derived as copies or imitations of the former.

The row termed CALEDONIAN is copied from those carved monuments, in the North of *Scotland*, now under consideration. The other row, termed CONTINENTAL, which are composed of lines of such corresponding form, are similar sketches taken from authentic representations of the bonnets, tiaras, or crowns of Emperors, &c. as figured on carved monuments, glass paintings, and in the drawings on manuscripts, done on the Continent at several periods, from the eighth to the twelfth centuries, consequently rather previous to the æras of the sculptures under review. I. II. and V. are crowns of *Charlemagne*, and other nearly cotemporary Emperors. N° III. is on the figure that terminates the ancient sceptre of *France*; and IV. is on the seal of *Lotharius* the King.

Both rows, copied in rude conformity to the drawings of the originals, exhibit something of the progress of taste.—The original tiara of princes was a very simple circle, its ornaments unostentatious. As arts improved, and the taste of grandeur refined, they enriched the diadem with precious stones, amidst ornamental foliage and flowers.

The *Caledonian* Chief, who was wont to deck his bonnet with a feather, and a ribbon-flower, would be fond of these additional marks of distinction, conferred by ornaments of superior workmanship and design; and with no less ambition would those emblems of honour be imitated on their monumental stones.

A and B are on stones in the county of *Mar*, near to the Hill of *Benachie*; C and D, near to *Golspie* in *Sutherland*; E, on the beautiful and entire obelisk near to *Sandwick Castle*, on the coast of *Rossshire*.

It is remarkable, that the farther North, the richer and more elaborate are the embellishments of these obelisks: but that only becomes a consideration of any importance, as it serves to elucidate the probability of the account given by *Torpheus**, that the expeditions from the Continent were the channel by which a knowledge of the finer arts, and of Christianity, first spread the comfort of their light over the North of *Scotland*; and consequently gives additional validity to the positions laid down in these strictures, concerning several of the hieroglyphics and symbols that are chosen as the distinguished ornaments of the carved monuments exhibited, viz. that they derived their origin from the illuminations of Missals, and other manuscript books, brought from the Continent in the eleventh and twelfth centuries†.

Of the elephant-like figure which appears in the middle of the stone, of which a representation is given in the plate, enough has been already narrated; and of the so elaborate embellishment, which is carved over it, no conjecture is offered. The connected shields and sceptres, as they are variously exhibited on other monuments, will afford subject of future disquisition. This stone is in the highest preservation, having lain on its face in sand from time immemorial. It is at present in the church-yard of *Dyke*, near to *Forres*, in *Moray*. The reverse of it is a richly-ornamented cross: it has evidently therefore been raised in the obelisk stile, and is but the upper half broken off.

* *Antiquities and Scenery of Scotland*, page 142, 143.

† *Ibid.* 123.

Phryganea

L. G. G. G. G.

P. Marshalli sculp.

SCOLOPENDRA.

P. Contulius pinus.

SCOLOPENDRA.

THE depths of the ocean teem with myriads of animated beings, almost infinite in variety, which fabricate their several lodgings with the greatest dexterity and taste. Numbers of these live and die immoveably fixed to the same rocks, their natures not admitting of any loco-motive power; yet, wherever dredged up, they are vigorous and healthy, and give no sign of having languished for want of suitable refreshments. They live on atoms which are floated along with the tide. The waters of the sea are abundantly impregnated with various *exuviae*, to yield sustenance to its numerous inhabitants in their every state. By the continual flux and reflux, and several movements of the tide, those animals which have a fixed residence in one spot, are as plentifully supplied with choice of nourishment, as those who can travel and run about in search of it.

But when examining such articles, brought from the depth of fifty fathoms water (as those of which a representation is given in the annexed plate) it is manifest that they are not subject to any violent agitations of the sea: for the perforated stone, and old shells, on which these beautiful *scolopendra* have fixed their residence, had not been connected with any rock, but had lain on a bottom of mud and sand; the under part of them being of a dirty blue, and void of all appearance of incrustations; they must therefore have remained for years on the same side: but were these deeps exposed to the agitations of the ocean that are raised by storms, the above appearances could not have taken place. Indeed the whole structure and arrangement of these delicate vermicular shells, and of the beautiful and tender corals wherewith they are interwoven, is utterly incompatible with the action of stormy waves: their dwellings are in valleys of undisturbed tranquillity.

To the distance of several miles along the coast, and probably to the depth of twenty or thirty fathoms, the bottom may be agitated, and feel the influence of the stormy wind and tempest: but far beyond that, the raging of the surface does not remarkably disturb the tranquil flow of the waters in the deep. Of that fact numberless evidences occur among the variety of articles dredged up—of which successive specimens will occur in these delineations.

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A certain circulation, however, of all the waters in the ocean, to the greatest depths, is absolutely necessary to the existence of those animals which have a fixed residence at the bottom : but this their general means of renewed life and nourishment, so indispensably requisite to the health and beauty of the innumerable orders of these living flowers, will continue for their preservation, as long as the sun and moon endure, which are the causes of it.

The casual arrangements of these beautiful and elegant animals, and their habitations, have something in them extremely ornamental, interesting, and pleasant : the artless disposition of the several abodes they occupy ; some springing forth with infant life and tenderness ; others, through age, hardening into lifeless stone and marble—yield endless subjects of speculation, and charming specimens of the wonderful variety and change that takes place among the works of Nature.

The whole structure of the *Scolopendra*, the texture of its tentacula, its manner of expansion, and retreat into its shell, have such affinity and resemblance to the form and operations of the *singular Polype* of the first Number, that they need not be more particularly specified.—a and B are different views of the animal ; A, its sucker magnified ; C, a more particular expression of the fine species of coral c ; and D merely exhibits the various wreathings of these shells round each other, adhering to a deserted cockle, and a stone perforated by the pholas, E F.

P. Magell Sculp.

C. Cordner fecit.

VIEW from the South of the SAW-MILL in G L E N - M O R E.

AVIE-MORE, in one of the most inland parts of *Elginshire*, is the opening of a large winding valley, stretching along the banks of the *Spey* towards *Castle-Grant*: The high-road from *Edinburgh* to *Inverness* passes through it, and the inn there is well furnished, has good accommodation, and is well supplied with every necessary refreshment for travellers.

A little way to the south, within view of the inn, rises *Crag-ailichie*, a rocky mount, famous as the rendezvous of the clan *Grant*, when they assembled on war-like enterprize. The name, therefore, was handed down (as is usual in the several districts of the *Highland* countries) as a kind of watch-word to rouse the zeal of the clan, when the property of any of its members was attacked, or their persons insulted. To call out these paroles, when in difficulty or distress, was to adjure the hearers (if of the name) by all the ties of fealty and kindred, to assist and deliver; and to talk lightly of these paroles, their standards of honour, was considered as an indignity, to be obliterated by all the severities that unrelenting revenge could inflict on the offender.

There is a pleasant enough ride, for a day and a half, from the coast at *Gordon Castle* to *Avie-more*; for the most of the way along the river side, and in the course of which the road passes through the openings of many of those fine vallies, where, in a former age, the merry and musical inhabitants of these retired and fruitful districts had indulged, in their recreations, those lively tunes, which are yet held in esteem as powerful to exhilarate, and animating to inspire the sprightly dance; and are distinguished by the title of *Strath-Spey Reels*.

In passing on from *Avie-more* to *Glen-more*, the *Spey* is to be crossed at *Rothiemurcus*, the seat of a good *Highland* estate; and a guide obtained for a conductor, as there are several miles of pathless woods, and of a rocky desert, interspersed with swampy grounds, which render the proper paths difficult to be found, but by those who have frequently travelled through the waste.

After wandering, for some hours, through that rugged and dreary solitude, when one advances along the brow of the hill which first gives the opening of *Glen-more*,
47 F and

and looks into that rich and noble valley, furrounded with lofty grey mountains, cloathed with dark extensive woods ; the ruggedest rocks towering high at intervals among them, and lessening into fainter tints towards the azure spread of their more distant and clouded summits—the flocks and herds grazing in the deep hollows of the green pastures beneath—cottages amid trees and corn-fields, on the banks of the rivulets—a rustic hunting seat, with environs, pointing it out to be the temporary residence of the Duke of *Gordon*, the proprietor of the forest and the glen, in the season when he comes to enjoy the pleasures of the chace ; for these mountains plentifully abound both with deer and game—workmen seen busy on the declivities, felling the larger trees ; with infinite labour conducting the timber to the mill, or guiding the planks, already cut, down the streams to *Loch-Morlich*, a charming spread of water, which fills the middle of the valley, furrounded with the most romantic trees, scattered along its sandy shores ; many fallen, or whitening in all the hoary greatness of decaying age—These all combine to present at once to the astonished beholder, a most majestic and animating, a picturesque and delightful scene.

The drawing of the view, given in the annexed plate, was taken from the opening of a narrow winding glen, or gully, occasioned by the channel of a rivulet being worn deep into the hill, by many a winter torrent rushing from the impending mountain. The prospect of a gravelly cliff in front, crumbling down from under the brush wood, and from among variety of lofty trees, which wave over the precipice, contrasted with the groves that cloath the adjacent mountains, and enriched with the spread of the rivulet leading to the Saw-mill, seemed an inviting subject to convey some general idea of these strange wilds.

Over the above-mentioned deep chasm, in the declivity of the mountain, worn down with the floods of ages, some immensely large decayed trees are fallen ; and now withered to a silver grey, stripped of their bark and foliage, form a species of bridges of most singular and romantic appearance. Some of these, in falling, have torn up the soil with their enormous roots, and by that means stones and shrubs, with variety of scattered foliage, are suspended in the air, and, if studiously imitated, would have a remarkable good effect in wild landscape ; a slight sketch of some, as a specimen, is given on the left of the representation in the plate.

CHAPTER-HOUSE of the CATHEDRAL CHURCH of *ELGIN*, in *MORAY*.

THIS fertile province was the chosen seat of many ecclesiastical establishments; and the environs of *Elgin* yielded many a pleasing residence, which were early devoted to the preferments of the evangelical clergy. Here the Christian institution gained a considerable degree of importance in the thirteenth century.

In the year 1224, the building of the Church now under consideration was begun; and for several years ample contributions were raised, from every quarter, to adorn this temple in a sumptuous stile of grandeur, suited to the venerable shrine and high altar of God to be placed there. The edifice was extensive; as usual, in form of a *Jerusalem* or Passion cross; extending 264 feet in length, and 114 in breadth; the height of the central tower, including the spire, 198. A broad pavement surrounded the inclosure of the Church, and on the outside were arranged the houses of the dignified clergy, which thus formed a spacious oblong square, 900 yards in circuit; a lofty wall, in which were four gates, well contrived for security and defence, inclosed the whole, and gave it the effect of a strong fortress, guarding the sanctuaries of devotion.

The Chapter-house, of which a particular view is given in the annexed plate, is an elegant octagon, of about 40 feet diameter, and equally high, communicating with the choir by a vestry and vaulted passage, which also led into the avenues of the great altar.

The roof consists of an assemblage of *Gothic* arches, forming an ample dome, supported by a fine central column, elaborately fluted; neat carvings of various coats of arms are placed round the capital (probably the insignia of those characters who were most forward in promoting the embellishments of the sacred edifice). These form a rich and uncommon chapter to the pillar.

The windows of this are very spacious; and from the remains of the ornamental foliage, into which the stone divisions had been carved, there is expressive evidence of their having been designed and executed with great taste, and by a masterly hand.

In the north wall are the venerable niches, with the seats of the spiritual court; the middle one is raised some steps higher, as the *cathedra veritatis*, and more digni-

fied feat of the Bishop of the diocese. These are said, and with probability, to have been lined with wainscot, and adorned with gold and crimson ; which are long ago removed or crumbled into dust.

In the more early periods of the evangelical establishments, it was of peculiar importance to deliberate with the united wisdom of the sacred order, to whom the charge and care of promoting these institutions were devolved, in what ways they could most successfully promote the great ends of their appointment. In every diocese, therefore, some distinguished apartment was allotted, where the chapter should meet in council, to weigh the utility and importance of the several regulations proposed : These convocations of the ministers of the Divine testimony, were of great consequence to their union of design in ordaining rules and consulting new establishments. These councils being held near the episcopal residence, and the Bishop presiding in the chief chair, the cathedræ of spiritual authority, gave to the adjacent temple, in which he officiated, the title of the Cathedral Church ; and these were more or less magnificent in proportion to the extent of the diocese : There the high altar was served with superior pomp, approached with deeper awe, and enriched with more costly ornaments. By these means, in early times, the sacred promulgations were rendered more solemn, and their great Author commemorated with devouter adoration.

This diocese extended over the vast stretch of the rich province of *Moray*, and included also great part of the county of *Banff*, and of the shires of *Inverness* and *Nairn*. It was, therefore, an object of high importance, even in the view of the *Roman* pontiff and conclave ; it offered eligible settlements to their favourites ; and they caused contributions to be levied on the continent, that the temple in *Moray* might be adorned with the most elaborate exertions of art and architectural grandeur.

The Chapter-house and Choir are of its most entire remains. They having escaped the ruin of its falling towers, which have buried the greatest part of the rest of the edifice in irrecoverable oblivion.

CORALS and SPONGES

P. Magell. Sculp.

L. Cordier. Lith.

Published according to Act of Parliament 1800. - Engraved by Peter Magell. Engraver in 1800 at Derby Lane.

CORALS and SPONGES.

A. and B. b. are specimens of sponges. C. D. E. &c. of corals. The work of the most surprizingly minute artificers in the creation, adhering to stones and shells, covered over with incrustations, formed by myriads of the coralline tribes.

At the bottom of the deep all nature is alive. Far as the sun's influence can penetrate the ocean, there are great variety of vegetables; beyond the prospect opened by the lowest ebb, the rocks are clothed with these, and they often extend many hundred yards into the main, more or less, in proportion to the depth of water. But within a very few miles of these rocky shores, the region of vegetation ends; another scene of things seems to take place, and life is found pervading every substance. In those fields of life, where all animating principles are awake in full energy, no production merely vegetable can long find a place; they would soon be covered over with incrustations formed by the innumerable orders of living creatures which there spread their habitations. Grant that the seeds of plants were scattered numerous as the particles of sand that fall from the friable rock, they would be instantly devoured or choaked by the ever-spreading encroachments of the coralline webs. And also, if the seed should not be destroyed by the energies of the coral race, they would be swallowed up by *serpulae* and *scolopendra*; or at least their shelly bindings would inevitably cut off the progress of the rising plant.

It being before maintained, that the depths of the ocean are regions of perpetual tranquillity; it is now to be observed, that they are indeed realms of life—that there the powers of vegetation can find no place to unfold, and are therefore for ever ceased.

In support of all theory, facts merit our first and principal regard. In advancing on researches from the coast, first vegetables clothed with life, succeed to those that are perfectly inert; at some distance beyond the range of these, no vegetable whatever is found. Among all the variety of substances dredged up from forty and fifty fathom water, no organized forms are discoverable void of life; but they are thoroughly replenished with productions of most elegant workmanship, which breathe life at every pore. “The active legions of these wonderful artificers, that are for ever engaged in adorning their possessions in the depths of the sea, would not allow any substance, perfectly inert, to remain unclothed upon.”

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But life is there as variously formed, as are the herbs of the field. There living creatures assume the infinitely diversified appearances of the vegetable kingdom. There (if it be allowable to express it so) life is needful to support the forms of vegetation.

Amongst innumerable masses of stones, and pieces of coral rock, covered over with arrangements of most beautiful productions, never did one article come under inspection, but was confessedly of animal construction. Did vegetables exist in these deep places, some of them must have been discovered during a research of years.

These introductory remarks seemed needful to many of the following investigations; and have, therefore, been premised in this and the former Number. There is, therefore, given in the plate a representation of some of the finer species of corals and sponges; and the general appearance of the cells of the coral legions, where-with the shells, and stones, and rocks, in deep water, are almost wholly over-run. These are somewhat magnified, to allow their various form to be the more distinctly marked; but when hereafter severally examined, the wonders of their structure will more amply unfold, and the faculties of their active inhabitants will then also come under our review.

C. Gordon-Forbes

P. Magill Sculp.

MONUMENT in ROSS-SHIRE.

THE very singular, the sumptuous and elegant ornaments, which constitute the border of this finely-carved stone, are effected with such elaborate care, and such fanciful address, as render it peculiarly remarkable, and entitle it to a distinguished rank among the most valuable antiquities of the nation.

The strange stile of the marginal embellishments, the almost unprecedented combinations of waving lines and animals, are perhaps as great a subject of curiosity as any ancient piece of sculpture can afford. It lies on the eastern coast of the peninsula of *Ross-shire*, which terminates in *Tarbet-ness*, a few miles south from the seat of Mr. *M'Leod*, of *Guineas*.

Near it there had been erected a chapel, dedicated to the Virgin *Mary*; of which the scattered ruins alone remain, in a seemingly sweet, but now forlorn retirement*.

The small plain, almost on a level with the beach, is sheltered on the one hand, from the north and west, by rising grounds; on the other, it is open to a boundless prospect of the ocean, stretching along the eastern horizon; and has therefore a fine exposure towards the rising sun.

Such situations, in the infancy of religion, in every age, were delighted in, as well adapted to invite the early votaries to pay their orisons when the first beams of day shone round the altar.

This obelisk is but a few miles distant from the one, of which a delineation is given in the second Number, adorned with a sumptuous cross.

It is remarked, in the twelfth letter of *The Antiquities and Scenery of the North of Scotland*, that the lightness and elegance of some of the waving ornaments found on these monumental stones, the elaborate execution of the foliages, and the evidences they give of being raised by a masterly hand, bear testimony to the abilities of artists in an early period of improvement in taste and design; and clearly shew that the ornamental arts had been cultivated with considerable attention and care in northern *Caledonia*, in an age of which we have no annals.

* See *Antiquities and Scenery*, p. 65, 66.

Some time after the thousandth year of the Christian æra, and before the thirteenth century, most of these obelisks would appear to have been erected; and as they give evidence of the genius and capacity of the artists employed in the carving of them, we cannot suppose that they would work symbolical figures on them with such care, if the import of these figures had not been generally understood; for as they had not the knowledge of letters, to enable them by inscriptions to perpetuate the memory of persons and events, it is not to be doubted but these hieroglyphical forms are the traces of a language, or specimens of imagery at the time comprehended, however difficult it may be now for us to unravel their meaning. These observations are applied to the sceptres and circles above the figures; for the hunting of the deer and the sounding of the horns need no illustration; only, perhaps, it is worthy of some notice, that the principal figure in this outset to the chase is a female. It is observable, that the uppermost rider has a stirrup, wears no spear, is represented in a front view, and is therefore probably feminine: But the emblems raised in the adjoining corner seem calculated to put it beyond a doubt. They very nearly correspond in form with those expressed more at large on the *Maiden-Stone*, represented in N° 3, and pronounced to be the figures of a mirror and a comb. None need be offended at the choice of these hieroglyphicks as appendages of dress, or characteristic of the *lady*. There was found an ivory comb in an alabaster urn, at *Rome*, in the end of the sixth century, which was esteemed one of the greatest curiosities, and gave rise to many deep speculations on the gradual advances of society towards elegance of manners, and refinement in the arts of polished life. Although this be a similar occasion, it is not thought necessary to renew these speculative disquisitions, however entertaining they may have been.

The shields and sceptres claim a more minute investigation. Shields were ornamented with various flowerings, ere they were distinguished by those peculiar emblems, which became the chosen insignia of those eminent in valour, or remarkable for their feats in arms.

It was about the middle of the twelfth century that blazonry, or the distinction of nobility, and of knights, by coats armorial, came into general use in *Europe*; and soon after that period we find such insignia on *Caledonian* monuments; but those under consideration relate to an epoch more remote.—Let it at present be only farther observed, with respect to the highly-finished monument under consideration, that the heads and limbs of animals, entwined with foliage with circular and waving stems, was the peculiar taste of ornament on the continent, especially in those kingdoms next to *Great-Britain*, about the end of the tenth and throughout the eleventh century. Hence we may see the origin of the marginal embellishments of the obelisk; but must hereafter take a more deliberate survey of the manner in which the sceptres are so often introduced.

D U N - G A R D E L .

THE ride from *Inverness* to the *Fall of Fyers*, particularly after opening the view of *Loch-Nefs*, is, through surrounding scenery, picturesque, magnificent, and romantic.

Every one who can look around with a wakeful and contemplative eye, and travels that road, can be in no want of objects, evervarying in grandeur and novelty the view, to elevate and amuse his thoughts : fancy is enlarged and entertained by a continual succession of some of the most superb prospects of nature.

Every traveller of taste and curiosity, who is led on this way to contemplate and admire the majesty of the cliffs which overhang the gulph into which the river *Fyers* is plunged in its fall, ought to dedicate half an hour to look round.

Dun-Gardel in Strath-Fari-gaic.

ON the way from *Inverness*, within three miles of the *General's Hut*, which is the resting-place near the *Fall of Fyers*, there is a bridge of two arches over a gully, through which a rivulet runs : here the lovers of the sublime in scenery are desired to turn aside from the military way, and follow a narrow path that winds into the opening of a strath. On advancing by this path, deep glens disclose their rocks, their torrents, and their gloomy groups of trees on either hand. One is soon completely secluded from the view of the loch, the country, and distant mountains ; and the whole attention is fixed on the impending cliffs, august from their height, and clothed with dark wreaths of trees. The continual roar of the waters, hurling through the recesses of these rocky solitudes, gives the wild murmurs of a music quite suited to the scene.

Between these romantick glens, worn deep by the torrents of years, the enormous cliffs of an almost perpendicular rock, or rather mountain, fronted with precipices of granite, among which the birch-trees and pines have found a soil, present themselves to view, towering in awful majesty, and constitute the steep and lofty pile of *Dun-Gardel*.

It has received the appellation of *Dun*, an epithet corresponding with that of Castle or Tower, because a species of fortress had once occupied its summit. It must have been troublesome and dreadful times indeed, when mankind fled to such a place of refuge for safety: for it is almost the toil of a day to reach near its top, even by the easiest paths that are found from the high lands of *Strath Errick*.

Dun-Gardel, when seen from the north, seems altogether insulated by the depth of the glens on either hand; and the noisy torrents foaming down their rugged channels, uniting their waves, encircle the base of the mountain, and spread their spray among the rocks, as if the billows of the ocean.

The Bishop of *Londonderry* (whose curiosity and zeal in examining the singularities of this country were very great) went up to the top of *Dun-Gardel*: this is accomplished by taking a large sweep round the back of the glens to the other side of the mountain, where the paths are not insurmountably steep, yet the ascending is a work of much time and labour. The bishop was probably induced to this adventure by the hope of the extensive prospects which he would enjoy from its summit; and of that he was not disappointed. The singular height of *Dun-Gardel*, and comparatively small circumference of its base, give opportunity of looking round with less interruption than is generally met with on more extensive mountains.

General *Wade*, who long resided here, and from whom what is now a little inn is still called the General's Hut—and who has left a lasting memorial of his name, by the so distinguished exertions of the military power under him, in effecting excellent roads through a formerly almost impassable part of the country—went up one day, with some of his officers, to the top of *Dun-Gardel*. A gentleman who accompanied them mentioned, that, on ascending through the mists which hung round the brow of the mountain, getting into the sunshine above—the mount encircled with clouds under their feet, and seeing the distant countries like a lower world around them—no wonder that they seemed lifted up from the earth. One of the officers, in particular, seemed pathetically to feel his airy and exalted situation; for, sighing, he said that he was sorry to go down to the vale, as he did not know if ever he should get so near to heaven again.

J. Mayall Sculp.

C. Conderson Pinx.

FINDLATER CASTLE.

THE shores in general, along the coasts of the *Moray Firth*, are bold, rocky, and precipitous: those that lie betwixt the rivers *Dowron* and *Spey* are peculiarly so—in many places excavated into caverns, arches, and subterraneous vaults; in others, formed into lofty pyramids and insulated columns.

The head-land, which forms on the east the bay of *Cullen*, presents an exceedingly high and spacious cliff to the ocean: it is smooth, perpendicular, and stretches to a vast extent, along a level beach of mouldering shells, which lie betwixt it and the sea. On climbing through the openings among the adjacent rocks, and gaining access to the beach of shells, one not only finds charming entertainment in examining these exuviae of shell-fish, numerous as the sands on the shore; but it seems such a complete exclusion from the world, that with the sublime of the surrounding scenery, and the boundless extent of ocean that meets the opposite horizon, it gives one to enjoy the luxury of contemplative solitude in all its native tranquillity and grandeur.

Within half an hour's walk to the east lie the remains of *Findlater Castle*.—These ruins cover the top of a peninsulated rock of a considerable extent. The outer walls of several parts of the building are so founded on the cliffs as to correspond with the face of the precipice, so that the principal tower seems to hang over the sea; and from the windows of several apartments a pebble may be dropt into the waves.

Owing to the originally irregular surface of the rock, which in many places rises high from the level of intermediate spaces, some of the lower rooms have their inner ends of the solid stone; on several of which the plaistering still remains, with traces of painting on it. In the plate some large vaulted arches may be observed, too spacious for being any remains of windows; these are the ends of the apartments, which all were vaulted, and consist of the hewn unbuilt rock. There is a large space at the top of these vaults now, where one may walk about, and survey the adjacent picturesque shores, without any apprehensions from the precipitous and insulated situation: so broad are the foundations of the Castle, of which a perspective view cannot convey a sufficient idea. No one, however, can well reflect on

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these tremendous situations, chosen by our ancestors for safety and refuge in an age of feud and rapine, without feeling a grateful sense of the superior æra of society at which we are arrived, when security and peace may dwell in the lowliest cot, and the most slender building, as well as in the fenced city or fortified tower.

The isthmus which joins the rock, on which *Findlater Castle* was built, to the land, is cut down into a deep chasm, over which the draw-bridge fell ; as was usual in these fortresses, for the security of the garrison or family which occupied them.

Adjoining to the precipices which lie in front of the Castle, there had been extensive inclosures, with ditches and ramparts, drawn round large tracts of ground : the remains of many stone-buildings are scattered over this area ; and had been the free and spacious courts of the strong hold of which the castle on the rock was the citadel.

The residence was, from time immemorial, occupied by branches of the family of *Findlater* ; and was only relinquished for more commodious and inland seats towards the end of *James* the Sixth's reign.

The dawn of a more auspicious age, when civil discords were subsisting, would open numerous inducements for noblemen and chieftains to choose more fertile and pleasant situations, where they could plant, have gardens, and enjoy rural avocations, and the entertainments of the field and stream.

The present seat and residence of the earl of *Findlater* and *Seafield*, *Cullen-House*, is in one of the most charming situations in the country, for variety of ground, and abounds in picturesque and pleasing scenery ; which is yearly receiving additional beauties from the unwearied attention, and distinguished taste, of its noble owner.

P. Marshall sculp

SPONGES

C. Cordieria pinnata

OF SPONGES.

AFTER Mr. *Ellis*, the beam of whose lynxean eye penetrated so far into the hidden system of divine contrivance discoverable in the animated race of corallines, and who also with care investigates the nature of sponge, it were needless to comment anew on the structure of those capillary tubes of which that production consists.

From his observations on the ramifications of sponges he justly draws the following conclusions: "That from the many obvious resemblances to divers other classes of sea productions which are found to be of animal construction, and from the chemical analysis of sponges in general, there seems sufficient reason to give them a place among animated beings."

The purport of the present stricture is to verify that position, which the remarks of the former Number must powerfully support.

Mr. *Ellis* says, that he had seldom met with sponges until they had been long separated from the places where they grew; and recommends it to those, who live near the coasts where they are found, to give further information with respect to them.

The annexed plate is a representation of some specimens copied when recently brought ashore: they were dredged up with some corals, &c. in about thirty fathom water.

It is observable that the sponges A a have separate origins; they arise from two distinct roots, or rather two unconnected systems of tubes: they approach, inoscullate, and wholly unite themselves together into one mass; the smallest being, by this connexion, wholly lost in the general spread of the larger sponge. Perhaps no production, merely vegetable, is capable of such an union.

When thin slices of these are attentively examined by the microscope, it is evident the tubes, or fibrous ramifications, increase in size as they expand in number, and are larger in proportion as they recede from the roots, or first formed parts of the production. This is directly contrary to the order of nature every where observable in the fibres of plants.

Some

Some of the younger sponges, as that marked B, are of a fine pale yellow, the fibres translucent; and small shells, serpulæ, &c. are seen entire within the mass. Was any vegetable body ever found thus to entomb a pebble or the shell of a snail?

The tubes of the sponges, though interwrought and ramified in ten thousand irregular ways, as at D, which is a magnified slice of the sponge d, are all projected in fine terminations, separating from each other, as at F, which is part of the sponge A, highly magnified; and these thorny points, under the microscope's first powers, are the union of many inosculating tubes, represented at G and H; and the star-like openings of A, as magnified at E, seem to be chambers contrived to give the infant polypes play.

The animated myriads of the deep are ever making encroachments on each other: none dare be idle, or it must quickly perish. Every part of every stone is covered with animal habitations; these habitations inclosed with the abodes of others: the organs of life alone are left free.—Of all marine productions, sponges are those on whose surface fewest incrustations are ever found: nothing but the infinite number of animals, which form and occupy them, could have saved the sponges, in those living waters, from being utterly abolished. Had they not been all alive ere the first century of the Creation was finished, their place could have been no where found; at least they could not have remained the ornament of coral groves.

Although this production has a living principle, which would disclose its energies at every pore if we beheld them on their native rocks, yet is it not surprising that they should universally and invariably retreat, ere they can be brought under the power of the microscope. Those little beings, which form the finer colours, must be exceedingly more robust than they: yet all who are conversant with these marine bodies must have felt with regret, how difficult it is to preserve them in a state of activity but for an hour, even by the most repeated changes of the water round them, which seems an indispensable requisite to their continuance in health.—But of these last some beautiful specimens shall be produced, exhibiting the living principle and polypes, whereby they are actuated and formed; and these perhaps are the first living corals which have been examined from these shores.

C. Gardner, sculp.

P. Mazell, sculp.

CARVED STONE at ESSIE.

THIS obelisk was accidentally discovered by Mr. *Cordiner*, in the bank of a rivulet that runs by the village of *Essie*, near to *Glaimis*, in *Forfar Shire*. The rivulet had washed away the soil in which it had lain buried for ages, and thus disclosed to view an *elegant* and *singular* piece of antiquity, in the highest preservation. It retains in its make striking evidences of having been designed to stand erect from the ground, and is therefore undoubtedly a monument of the obelisk kind. It is richly carved on both sides (the reverse of it shall be inserted in a future Number); and some feet of length of the lower part of the stone are left rude, and void of sculpture, for being sunk into the ground, and inclosed by the steps of long square stones, wherewith they are commonly found surrounded and supported; and a moulding runs along to mark the intended visible base.

The pleasing disposition, and graceful design, of some of the ornaments, give it a title to be called *elegant*, as the work of an otherwise rude and early age. And some novelty and peculiarity in the habits and procession of the figures, give a similar claim to the other epithet above, that it is a *singular* piece of antiquity.

When this monument was first raised from its muddy bed, and washed from the slime of years, the appearance of a solemn procession of reverend figures in robes, and heifers seemingly attending, adorned with foliage and flowers, immediately suggested the idea of *Druid* priests going to sacrifice; and the consecrated victims, distinguished by these peculiar garlands and wreaths. A figure above seemed to hold a weapon ready to slaughter the expiatory offerings; and the circles over the heads of the holy men were either chosen symbols of the mysteries of their devotion, or emblems of those hallowed circles in which the solemnities of their worship were always performed.—These delightful discoveries of the ancient rites of the primordial religion of our country, was too grand a reverie to be relinquished without some reflections a little mortifying to the spirit of antiquarian investigation. But, on cleansing off the clay from the other side of the stone, the appearance of an angel, and finally of a sumptuous cross, emblazoned high with the most elaborate and splendid decorations, clearly evidenced the monument to have been carved after the better light of Christianity had regulated devotion, inspired the arts, and left these memorials through the kingdom of its early influence and sway. Although the

the cross rising into light put an end to the *Druid* sacrifice, yet the farther contemplation of the sculptures on the stone was not without an ample fund of rational entertainment. Here conjecture becomes authenticated by unequivocal resemblances, that may be traced between the figures on this stone and several of a corresponding age in other countries.

In some old paintings, of which representations are given in the CXIX. and CXXXVII. plates of the English edition of *Montfaucon's Antiquities of France*, it may be observed that long robes were early worn by the fathers of the church on all solemn occasions: in their processions their priests carried the crosses, croziers and other ensigns of sacred authority, which added to the pomp of their sacred deliberations and holy rites.

The first badge of their sanctity and humility was the pallium or cloak, the plainest and most simple of garments. It was worn throughout the Roman empire in contradistinction to the toga, which was considered as an airy, gay, and splendid piece of dress, unsuitable to those who placed their glory in preaching the gospel to the poor.

This then, as the badge of Christian pastors—and the croziers, as ensigns of their delegated power from the apostles—became striking appendages of those holy men who first announced the evangelical consolations. These distinguishing garbs and holy insignia would naturally accompany the promulgation of the gospel; and, wherever the apostolic fathers proclaimed their mission, and the light of life, would strike the beholders with awe, and be represented by artists with reverence. The *Caledonian* sculptors might certainly therefore have had the living figures to copy from: though it is highly probable, they would be confirmed in the appropriation of these to monumental remembrancers of their faith, by seeing them pictured in devotional books, and considered as memorials of martyrs, saints, and heroes; and as emblematical of those solemnities of religion, which they regarded as the source of their most lasting consolation.

That the human figures on this monument have the above allusion, can require no further evidence than a clear inspection affords. The embellished elephant also in part appears.—The suspended shields and sceptres must require a disquisition appropriated to them only.

CASCADE OF LOTH-BEG, SUTHERLAND.

THE freestone cliffs along these shores have a singular effect, the precipices being more even and smooth than those of granite rock; and often the quantity of sand washed down by the surge has been so great as to make the sea retreat from the foot of the precipice; and constitutes a level beach, with sweeps of the cliffs, forming a noble species of amphitheatre, where one admires the regularity of the strata, like massy rows of benches stretching round. In many places the more friable parts have been washed away, and left the others in columns supporting lofty arches; in others, the excavations have formed spacious caves.—The bishop of *Offory*, who delighted to recall to his remembrance the scenes which he had visited in the *Holy Land*, when he entered the cave, near the bridge of *Brora* (which is perforated at top, and forms a commodious dwelling, and is often occupied by the fishermen), admiring its structure, said there were such caves near *Bethlehem*, in *Palestine*; wherein those worthy men, who were afterwards called to be evangelists and apostles, had frequently made their retired and contemplative abode.

At the opening of *Strathleven*, there is one, whose entrance is far up the face of the precipice, and is narrow; but within it forms a pretty large circular apartment, where the rock is artificially cut into niches, and rows of seats are made to project around a level floor. Some deep excavations are made, which must have been the repositories of such necessaries as the recluse had occasion for, who had been the inhabitants of the cave: but in one place there is a gloomy narrow passage, seemingly into a second apartment, which must be entirely dark. As Mr. *Pennant*, when he specified the cave as a curiosity worthy of examination and remark, did not mention this second entrance as requiring any particular notice, Mr. *Cordiner* had not provided any lights to examine it by, and could not then wait their arrival, else should have liked to have looked into the innermost retreats of the cave. On advancing a little way, found the passage strewed with feathers, and some other marks of carnage, which were not inviting. The inner chamber is probably now the secure abode of foxes; for the winding passage here and there opens into such narrow holes, seemingly penetrating deep and far into the body of the rock, as must render these recesses safe for ravenous beasts; for they will probably remain for ages inaccessible to the human race: but the exterior chamber

H

is

is a very commodious apartment, and might well defend the recluse possessor from both the summer heats and winter cold, and afford him an asylum of quietude and repose.

The Cascade, and Freestone Cliff and Quarries, which constitute the picturesque scene, of which a representation is attempted in the plate, is best viewed from the margin of the sea; whose waves, at times, lash the foot of the cliff, so that one, in time of flood, can scarcely travel round the point which opens the prospect of the cascade. A large stream dashes over the hollow of one of these circular precipices mentioned, and breaks beautifully down the perpendicular rock: it is said to be a singularly grotesque and shining scene in winter, when at any time a keen frost succeeds a fall of rain; for then the enormous icicles hanging from the rock, and meeting the shapeless pillars, formed by the falling streams, become an unusually grand and striking addition to the view.

This plate is engraved from one of a numerous set of drawings made by Mr. *Cordiner*, on a journey round the northern mountains, and into the interior parts of *Scotland*, undertaken at the instance of Mr. *Pennant*; and the same distinguished zeal, to place the importance and inhabitants of *North Britain* in a just point of view, which characterizes his tours into that country, induces him to indulge the public with plates of these drawings, which exhibit the picturesque and romantic scenes that are so frequently met with in the charming wilds of ancient *Caledonia*.

ST. THOMAS'S ABBEY, AT ARBROATH.

THIS Abbey was founded by *William the Lion*, in 1178, and dedicated to our celebrated primate, *Thomas a Becket*. The last abbot was the famous Cardinal *Beaton*, at the same time archbishop of *St. Andrew's*, and before his death as great and absolute here as *Wolfey* was in *England*. It was a rich and extensive monastery; enjoyed uncommon privileges from the crown; and had an ample revenue, which, in the most liberal manner, supported with splendor those virtues of hospitality for which those institutions were so remarkably distinguished. The great as well as the poor shared in their munificence. In 1530, the king was twice sumptuously entertained, with his retinue, in the splendid apartments of the abbey. Its very ruins, as Mr. *Pennant* expressively remarks, give an idea of its former magnificence. It lies on a rising above the Town, and presents an extensive and venerable front; is most deliciously situated; commands a view of the sea to the east, of a fertile country to the west, bounded by the *Grampian Hills*; and to the south, of the openings into the Firths of the *Tay* and *Forth*.

The Abbey was once enclosed with a strong and lofty wall, which surrounded a very considerable tract. On the south-west corner is a tower, at present the steeple of the parish church: at the south-east corner was another tower, with a gate beneath, called the *Darn Gate*, which, from the word *Darn*, or *private*, appears to have been the retired way to the Abbey. The magnificent church stands on the north side of the square, and was built in form of a cross: on the other side are three rows of false arches, one above the other, which have a fine effect; and above them are very high windows, with a circular one above. In 1771, a part adjoining to the west end fell suddenly down, and destroyed much of the beauty of the place. The length of the whole church is about two hundred and twenty-five feet: the breadth of the body and side isles, from wall to wall, sixty-seven: the length of the transept, one hundred and sixty-five feet; the breadth, twenty-seven.

It seems as if there had been three towers: one in the center, and two others, one on each side of the west end; part of which still remains. On the south side, adjoining to the church, are the ruins of the Chapter-house: the lower part is vaulted—is a spacious room, well lighted with Gothic windows: above is another good apartment.

The great gate to the Abbey fronts the north : above the arch had been a large gallery, with a window at each end. At the north-west corner of the monastery stand the walls of the regality prison, of great strength and thickness : within are two vaults ; and over them some light apartments. The prison did belong to the convent ; which resigned this part of its jurisdiction to a layman, whom the religious elected to judge of criminal affairs. The family of *Airly* had this office before the Reformation, and continued possessed of it till the year 1747, when it was sold, and vested in the crown with the other heretable jurisdictions.

The Monks were of the *Tyronensian* order ; and were first brought from *Kelso* ; whose Abbot declared those of this place, on the first institution, to be free from his jurisdiction. On the Reformation, *John Hamilton* was Commandatory Abbot. In 1608, it was erected into a barony, in favour of his son *James* ; then was conveyed to the Earl of *Dysart* ; and finally bought, by *Patrick Maule*, of *Panmure*, with the patronage of thirty-four pounds.

PALM-BRANCH CORALLINE.

THIS coral of singular beauty, most elegant in the form and arrangement of its cells, required a very elaborate procedure in delineating the varied appearances it made, in proportion to the higher powers of the microscope, to which its admirable structure was subjected. The difficulty of applying high magnifiers to these subjects when alive, is very great; the little animals are so apprehensive of impending danger, when in the least disturbed, that they keep most cautiously retired in their cells, when they find themselves in any unusual situation. A perfect stagnation of the water around them, soon makes them cease to expand, and a continuance of that is fatal to their existence. They have, in their original abodes, been ever accustomed to that perpetual movement of the ocean which the tides occasion: the best method to preserve them lively and active, to disclose their wonderful beauty, is therefore to create a continual movement of the water around them, by contriving gently to pour in a perpetual supply, and let the superfluous water run off: for there would seem, in their case, to be a *pabulum vitæ* in the sea, as necessary to the life of some, at least, of its inhabitants, as that of air is to animal life; and which, when exhausted, soon leaves the most active of the coral inhabitants motionless; they languish and die.

This may explain, in part, the difficulty of preserving corals alive, and consequently the cause of their having been so seldom seen. The specimens here exhibited in the plate, were dredged up on a stone from the bottom, several miles from the shore, in about forty fathom water; the stone was covered with a variety of other orders of corallines, many of which were of those so accurately described by Mr. Ellis.

This species seemed the more singular, as its characters would strike a kind of medium between corals and corallines. The cells are wreathed round, and constitute a tubular stem; but no living principle seemed to occupy the space within, nor were there any visible apertures whereby it could have communicated with the cells; but from each cell to the adjacent ones the living line could be traced; and when they played awhile, drinking in the water, it changed the colour of the animated thread; and in some specimens on the stone, the openings of the sides of the cells, from whence the new polypes were to issue, were highly polished, and studded round with tubercles, apparently also open, but too infinitely minute and fine to bear a conjecture of their use.

- a. is the natural size of a cluster, as it sprung from the stone.
- A. a single branch magnified.
- B. the tubercles, like polished shagreen.
- CC. the openings of communication betwixt the cells.
- DD. horny shining spiculæ, which defend the cells, like wreaths of transparent thorn.

Had it not been too daring an appellation, this might have made it be called *The Crown of Thorns Coralline*. In other views, the united spiculæ, encircling the cells, look like clear white palm-branches spread about them; and, as every such beautiful individual of the amazing race merits a particular designation, Mr. *Cor-diner* has presumed so far into the province of arrangement, as to call this hitherto undelineated species, *Palm Branch Coralline*.

N° 3. Is a drawing of it, by a good single glass of an aquatic microscope; which shews the elegant disposition of the cells.

N° 2. By one of a higher power; where the transparent films are seen, out of which the polype flowers stretch forth and spread.

N° 1. With the animals displaying their tentacula, as seen under the highest powers of a very fine double microscope.

One scarce can avoid commenting on the admirable disposition and structure of these so richly ornamented cells: how well adapted to protect and guard the living flowers that blossom within, and come forth at pleasure to take pastime in the water, and drink in sustenance, to encrease and extend the myriads of their offspring, and their beautiful habitations.

To say that such is the œconomy and astonishing contrivance of Nature, is a language which cannot be understood: it can have no meaning, but with reference to that infinite and divine Intelligence which presides in the creation and preservation of all parts of the system.

Even from these, one lifts up an eye of awe to the great and glorious Artificer; adopting, with sacred exultation, the address of a devout admirer of His works:

* O! DEUS ampla tue, quam sunt miracula dextræ.

REVERSE of the OBELISK at *ESSIE*, given in N^o VII.

NEAR a thousand years after the light of Christianity had dawned over most of the *European* kingdoms, the energy of its doctrines lay in a manner dormant for many centuries, owing to the *Gothic* darkness which so universally prevailed after the *Roman* empire was overrun by the savage nations. All works of taste and literature sharing in such a general destruction, the inspiration of religious principles was little attended to. But soon as the progress of science, and returning peace, gave scope for the evangelical doctrines to renew their influence and sway, their divine power revived with redoubled lustre; the principles of Christianity appeared so interesting to human happiness, that they were closely interwoven with the laws of government; their establishment was a principal object in the policy of the nations, and roused up the princes of the *European* continent to the most daring enterprizes of zeal. While the power of these principles was acting with all the grandeur of its original force upon the minds of the people, the *Crusades*, for the recovery of the *Holy Land* out of the possession of infidels, were undertaken: unnumbered multitudes flocked to the sacred standard, and enlisted with ardour and heavenly hope under the banners of the Cross. These splendid ensigns of hallowed enterprize were beheld with reverence and awe. It was the glory of kings to have their shields and armour stamped with the figure of the Cross of *Jerusalem*. It was the first badge of distinction, in the ages when chivalry arose, before the peculiar ensigns were appropriated as marks of distinguished characters. It was delighted in as the symbol of the Divine Benignity, with which they were fond to be adorned, and desired to shew the world how much they rejoiced in that piety, of which it was an emblem. Hence it was equally emblazoned on the robes and mantles of heroes and of saints; its figure embellished the churches at every sacred shrine; and, effected on monuments, by works of elaborate sculpture, consecrated and aggrandized the tombs of the illustrious dead.

At the high altars, the Cross was enriched with every costly ornament. The most precious gems united their rays in beautifying the finest workmanship of silver and gold.

Representations of these, to give dignity to the following pages, or to the concomitant portrait, illuminated devotional books; and in that form travelled into *Scotland*, and were imitated on monumental stones, by artists who never had seen a standard of the Cross, an altar, or a church.

Sufficient evidence has been produced to evince, that these Obelisks were long prior to any chapel or monastery's being erected in *Caledonia*; therefore the so repeated embellishment of the Cross, and with such peculiar ornaments, so corresponding in form to those on ancient banners, and on the missals of the early missionaries of the evangelical faith, not only scarce leave a doubt of their particular origin, but tend to support the explication given of the other symbols, and the line of information, which has been traced in these strictures, concerning our northern Obelisks.

Whatever gradual advances knowledge and Christianity made from the southern parts of the kingdom, letters and inscriptions came with and bear testimony to. But the figures on these Obelisks, along with the ornamental Cross, which were carved some time before even *Saxon* characters were known, have undoubtedly, in a great measure, been derived from the missals of those who, from the *Roman* empire, were commissioned to convey the truths of Christianity, and were zealous to publish them, with every appendage of grandeur, through the unenlightened kingdoms of the north. Those apostolic teachers would be too much engaged in publishing the important doctrines which they had in charge, to find leisure for learning the populace to read. Artists therefore could easier carve memorials of the facts, emblematically alluded to by the illuminations; and these representations would be remembrancers, more easily comprehended, and more generally understood, than any monumental inscriptions which could have been prescribed. The erecting of stones to commemorate remarkable events, is an almost universal practice, from the earliest ages. The sacred history abounds with instances of it; and every *Caledonian* mountain bears its undoubted testimony, "where stones are raised on high, to speak to future times with their grey heads of moss." Such were the circumstances which probably conspired to produce the Obelisks now under review.

The allusion of the animals of the chase, and of domestic use, is easily understood; the figure praying, and the angel above with four wings, from the above channel of information, derive a ready explanation: but the import of the messenger underneath, which at first seemed like a hieroglyphic of Time, shall at present be left to engage the attention, and is submitted to the decision of the curious, or to the learned in antiquarian disquisition.

B R A E - M A R C A S T L E.

THE very mountainous district of *Brae-mar*, being from time immemorial held a kind of forest lands, and one of the most woody regions of *North Britain*; affording in the vast groves of timber excellent cover for Deer, and the uncovered heaths abounding with variety of game; was in old times the annual resort of numbers of nobility, of princes, and of monarchs, who came there to pass part of the autumnal months in the amusements of the chase. This custom seems to be of most ancient origin, not only in *North Britain*, but over all *Europe*; and, if we choose to look at still more distant times, was prevalent in *Chaldea* and *Egypt*, from the earliest æra of written records; for the huntsman with his bow and arrow was the emblem appointed, in that distant age, to characterize the constellation which receives the sun, after the labours of the harvest and the vintage are over.

This custom, which probably originated from useful œconomy, and a necessary attention to obtain provision, afterwards administered to the luxuries of life. The exercise and animation of the chase, became the choice of those disengaged from business and care: and we see how pertinacious to monopolize the pleasures of this amusement and toil, men of rank become, by the many laws which are continually revived about it in the *British* Senate. Fowling may have engagements sufficient to keep the mind awake, as in a state of employment and activity; and this, to those who have much leisure, gives life a higher relish, the repast a superior flavour; and moderate fatigue generally softens the down of repose: but still, perhaps, the perfect freedom enjoyed, retirement from the intrusions of the world, the wild and magnificent scenery of uncultivated nature, and the pure air breathed among the mountains, contribute no less to enhance the enjoyments of the hunting season, than the address and activity requisite to ensure success, when in pursuit of the deer or game.

In whatever view they are taken, *Brae-mar Castle* is well situated as a residence for these excursions. On a small mount, at the end of a fine valley, enclosed by some of the wildest of the *Grampian* hills, and almost surrounded by meanders of the river *Dee*; the prospects on every hand are picturesque and great: the hills abound in game; black cock, grouse, and ptarmigans frequent the higher grounds: and vast herds of deer wander unconfined in the forests; they are shy, and it requires considerable address to come near them; but the sportsmen find no difficulty to regale all the season on venison.

General *Sir William Howe*, and several other officers of distinction, made a party this autumn, and chose the above castle as their residence during the hunting season. It is a high square tower, with turrets at the corners, and defended by outworks as a fortress; was built by government in the former century, and garrisoned, to guard that pass through the highlands, and secure the loyalty of the inhabitants; but now, altogether superfluous in that view, happily serves the more pleasing purpose of affording accommodation to those who come, not to awe the country, but partake in the healthful pastime and entertainments which it affords.

A vast, precipitous, and rocky mountain, which towers into the eastern sky, has singular grandeur of effect; the whole range of hills connected with it are peculiarly beautiful; the high ranges of hoary cliffs, studded with loftiest pines, and wreathed round with groves of birch-trees, whose "long and pendant boughs surpass the beauties of the weeping willow," and the whole theatre of surrounding mountains, cloathed with extensive forests, afford the noblest variety of wild and magnificent landscape.

A little above the present castle, there are the remains of a very ancient tower, placed on the top of a rock, in an almost insulated situation; the rock on three sides being washed by the cascades of a rivulet, which soon tumbles into the *Dee*. This was one of their hunting seats of old, but now a deserted and solitary ruin, where nothing invites attention, but decayed walls, expressive of the alterations all things undergo; and the rapid streams, which rushing down the steeps, there fullenly hurl over the rocks beneath, and sooth with wild reflection, by the incessant roar of their noisy torrents.

CATHEDRAL of DORNOCH.

DORNOCH, the chief town of the county of *Sutherland*, is situated on the banks of a firth, which penetrates almost to the centre of that part of *Scotland*, and to which it has given its name. All along the banks of the firth, as is usual on arms of the sea, the grounds are in a higher state of cultivation than is general in the interior parts of the country : in sailing up this, the prospects are picturesque and rural, ever finely varying. The number of small vessels, and the traffic which they occasion ; the fishermen, their boats, &c. animate the shores with the appearance of industry :—pleasant farms enriching the declivities of the hills ; the lofty rugged mountains, which tower beyond, and are sometimes projected into the firth, determining its windings, present a combination of romantic scenery, which those who delight in the varied prospects of nature, will hardly survey without interesting pleasure.

Commerce, however, is not yet sufficiently alive at *Dornoch* to compensate for the loss it sustained, when the opulence ceased to circulate in it, which sprung from its being an episcopal residence. Many of the more ancient towns of *Scotland*, whose flourishing state arose from religious establishments, like *Dornoch*, have from their abolition fallen into a mournful decay. This formerly, like *Durham*, the splendid seat of Ecclesiastics, where learning flourished, and whence divine knowledge was diffused, now only exhibits the sad memorials of its ancient state, by the remains of the Cathedral church, and scarce habitable ruins of the dwellings of the dignified clergy.

The Dean's house, which in the early days of evangelical institutions was the open and hospitable resort of the traveller and stranger ; where accommodation was flattering, and the light of science opened intellectual entertainment ; has still, by some fatality, a hapless allusion to its former appropriation, being converted into an inn ; but the decayed stairs, and mouldering walls, and forlorn look of the apartments, suggest but melancholy recollections of its original destination.

The finest part, the altar end of the Cathedral, is completely in ruins : from these ruins, the annexed plate exhibits something of the stile of the columns and Gothic arches, in which that sacred edifice had been built. Another wing is still

pretty entire, and serves at present for a Presbyterian kirk; a change, perhaps, no less distant from its original destination, than any other which these buildings are fated to undergo.

St. Bar, Bishop of *Caithness*, in the eleventh century, was the first who consulted the chief place of divine service in his diocese to be at *Dornoch*, and therefore caused a very sumptuous church to be built there; and houses erected for the clergy who should minister in it. Adjoining to these, Sir *Patrick Murray*, towards the end of the 13th century, or between the years 1270 and 1280, established a monastery of *Trinity Friars*; and it was about the same time, or soon after, that *Gilbert Murray*, Bishop of *Caithness*, caused the lofty Cathedral to be built, whose ruins still indicate its ancient magnificence.

Tradition says, that about the same time a brother of Bishop *Murray's* fell, at the head of a chosen band of men, when repelling a body of *Norwegians* or *Danes*, who had landed to pillage the country; that a monument of him was placed near the font, in the east aisle of the Cathedral. In that place there is still lying in the earth, a mutilated, but well-carved figure of a warrior, in *alto relievo*, which had formed the lid of a stone coffin, which was the most honourable mode of sepulture at that time, and is therefore, no doubt, the monument of the General *Murray* alluded to.

Many stones, with curious carvings on them, are scattered in those parts, of which a specimen is given in the plate.

Of SCEPTRES, and U R N.

SCEPTRES, or ensigns of royalty, borne in the hand on solemn occasions, have been, from the earliest ages to which history extends, the badges of highest authority and power. The most ancient figures which are preserved of Sceptres, all bear some general resemblance to a reed and a flower; being the varied representation of a long stalk, branched and blossoming at the top: this general idea, on the Continent, in the age of *Charlemagne*, settled into the figure of the *Fleur-de-lis*, and in that form has remained an elegant ornament, and constitutes a distinguished part of the imperial insignia of more than one *European* kingdom.

It is not necessary to trace from whence the original idea of this ensign of supreme power was derived; it is sufficient for the purpose of the present stricture, that the above, from time immemorial, was the chosen emblem of Royal dignity.

But two Sceptres seem early to have been appropriated to every one who wore the diadem; the one, the ensign of power; the other, of justice and mercy.

It was customary, particularly in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, both in *Great Britain* and on the Continent, on the decease of a royal personage, to place the crown and sceptres at the head of the bed of state; and after the body of the monarch was removed, these trophies remained for some time on the pillow, or were placed in other conspicuous situations, when the funeral obsequies were performed*. Often the Sceptres, in these cases, were placed through the circle of the Tiara; and thus to spectators constituted a separate and striking ornament, emblematical of sovereignty and grandeur: as such it was sculptured on monuments, and figured as an appendage to portraits or drawings, designed for representations of royal saints, or frequently characterized their rank, and became memorials of them, without any other figure but initials of their name subjoined. Thus these emblems adorned mausoleums and tombs, were painted on windows of religious houses, and embellished books of devotion. On the introduction of these sacred volumes into *Caledonia*, artists embellished their carved monuments, in memory of the first great patrons of Christianity, with imitations of these splendid ensigns, and as such they are figured on several obelisks (of which specimens have been given in this work) as at A and B in the annexed plate.

* One may observe that the Crown and Sceptres were disposed in this manner, at the funeral obsequies of *Queen Mary*, in *Westminster Abbey*, anno 1635, of which a representation is given in *Sandford's Genealogical History*, page 721. The resemblance to those under consideration is perhaps still more explicit in the plates of the funeral obsequies of *Ann of Bretagne*, CCV. and CCVI. in *Montfaucon's Antiquities of France*; which seem sufficiently to authenticate the source from whence the embellishments alluded to have been derived.

The most common forms in which these Sceptres, sculptured on the *Caledonian* monuments, are found, being separately marked at 1, 2, 3, gives opportunity of comparing them with those on old *Scotch* coins, copied underneath, with the reign and æra affixed. Some of the oldest sculptured figures of the Kings of *France* hold sceptres in their hands, of the form of that marked, FRANCE 1100.

These are only subjoined to authenticate the origin of these otherwise inexplicable trophies.

The more complex ornaments of a similar nature, which frequently embellish these ancient carved stones of *North Britain*, of which specimens are given at C and D, admit of an easy explanation also, from being compared with resembling remains of antiquity in other countries.

The shields of warriors were ornamented with circles, like those at C and D, enriched with various flowerings, before the insignia of arms gave them superior distinction: and representations of these shields of saints and heroes are found on many monumental stones on the continent, which were carved in the twelfth century.

The sceptres and shields linked together by certain bands, as in those figures in the lower part of the plate, indicate the union of great personages of different houses or kingdoms; as it is usual now, on intermarriages of rank, to emblazon the shield of the coat of arms with the insignia of both families.—These remarks may serve to ascertain the import of the otherwise seemingly unimportant embellishments which appear on several of the obelisks, of which engravings were given in former numbers.

The urn, which fills the middle part of this plate, was drawn from one lately dug up out of a tumulus, not far from *Castle Findlater* in *Banffshire*. It was enclosed by large flags of stone, which defended it from being crushed by the incumbent rubbish of the cairn. It had been most elaborately wrought, with a rude kind of carving; was full of ashes and small pieces of bone, when found; and the clay had been so thoroughly hardened in the burning, that on striking it, it rings as a china jar. There were fragments of other urns in the cairn, but their stone enclosures having given way, their carvings were obliterated, and their form wholly lost. They had experienced, in their subterraneous abode, as all things must, the fatal and irresistible effects of time.

B

COMMON CORAL of the *German* Ocean.

THE distinguished elegance of habitation, which these so animated and beautiful polypes enjoy, which cloath the deep beds of the ocean with productions of such varied and wonderful structure; and the exquisite pleasures that are derived from investigating their life and manners; cannot fail to suggest, to those who are blessed with leisure, and capacity to admire the so varied excellence of the works of supreme intelligence and wisdom—that They are placed thus in his dominion, to unravel the mysteries of his providence, and trace that beneficence of design on which the whole is constituted. That EYE who, through the eternal round of time, beholds the influence of each link in the golden chain of being which he has made, has seen the period when, from the vast recesses of the deep, which surround the *British* isles, new testimonies should be drawn of his universal care.

It can be no less astonishing than pleasant, therefore, to survey the energies that are awake, working in the marvellous retirements of life, which fill the depths of the ocean with structures of endless variety and beauty; and to observe such attention paid to their preservation, such means of defence given them against external injuries, such capacities bestowed on them of attaining food and nourishment, that they live and flourish in their immoveable abodes, in vigour, health, and plenty, until old-age comes on, and the springs of life decay; when new generations of their offspring arise around them, and they become enclosed for ever in their marble tombs.

'Tis absolutely a new scene of things, no less wonderful than true; 'tis a region of life; to the deep the vegetable kingdom does not extend. 'Tis a realm of tranquillity and undisturbed repose; the warring elements, the stormy wind and tempest, can raise no commotions there. When these living flowers spread forth and bloom, their spring experiences no alteration or change; the vicissitude of seasons is then unfelt; over them cold and heat have no power. There lasting silence reigns; the music of the grove, and the noise of thunder, are equally unknown. They pursue their labours in dwellings of perfect quiet. The lilies of those fields both toil and spin; they fabricate with dexterity their pearly cells, and seem in a state of constant activity and joy: yet all their enjoyments are within the compass of a single sense; but it has a thousand modifications, and yields them perpetual engagements: their unabating activity demonstrates this. That their sensibility is great, is also evident, for their expressions vary with their situation. When the
water

water but for a little time stagnates around them, they become dull and languid; their every movement indicates that the living principle is oppressed, and, if it be allowable to say so, sorrowful: but when the water is renewed around them, and put in motion, so as to resemble the circulation of their native tide, they act with alertness and seeming joy; their every movement becomes animated and sportive, and fresh vigour gives additional elegance to every attitude of their delicate frames. These particulars are enough to awake our admiration, and further enquiry into the wonderful œconomy and operations of nature, that are for ever going forward in the most retired recesses of the ocean.

The specimen of Coral which suggested these reflections, and is represented in the plate at A, is of a kind found most common, when dredging on hard ground, a league or two from the coasts of *Banffshire*; and often comes up with the mass of stones and shells to which it adhered. B shews the cells considerably magnified; and, from spreading over the substratum, uniting into a stem, which afterwards divides into branches, as in the figure A. This society had reared their dwelling on a deserted cockle-shell, to which many corallines adhered; a strong expression of the quietude of the waters around their residences. C is the beautiful shining surface of the end of a branch, highly magnified, as seen under water; and exhibits the general disposition of the cells and apertures, guarded and adorned by thorny margins: where they end, at D, one observes the cavities of new cells forming, by the polypes of the adjacent ones; and in some instances Mr. *Cordiner* has seen the infant polypes peeping through, as if beginning to take possession.

At E is expressed several forms in which the polypes appear, as issuing forth from their concealments in the Coral; and as seen spreading, and playing about for health and nourishment, in the water.—Further comment on the energies and powers of these engaging animalcules, would transgress the boundaries of the present article.

SLAINS CASTLE,

THE seat of the family of *Errol*, is most romantically situated on the verge of vast precipices, which overhang the northern ocean. It would seem almost unnecessary to particularize the site of these so well-known buildings; but it has been demanded of the author of these strictures to be very distinct and accurate in ascertaining the counties, and division of them, where the scenes represented in these plates are to be found; because otherwise the traveller is apt to pass some district unexplored, that should have engaged his attention.

A considerable portion of *Aberdeen-shire* is called *Buchan*; and a huge promontory, which forms the eastmost point of *Scotland*, and projects into the sea, forming the south boundary of the bay of *Peterhead*, is called *The Buchan-nefs*. The town of *Peterhead* is well known to mariners, for the protection and safety its spacious harbour affords; and is in repute for the restoration it gives to valetudinarians, by the purity of the air, in its peninsulated situation, and the remarkable virtues attributed to its mineral springs.

From the *Buchan-nefs*, southward, there runs a vast range of lofty cliffs, formed into grotesque pyramids and arches, and excavated into spacious caverns; which have already been alluded to in the account of *Dun-by*, N° 3, which is one of the most majestic of these remarkable rocks: the cliffs and castle represented by the plate are adjacent.

Ancient Slains Castle stood some miles further south, on a bleaker promontory; and the ruins of one large tower are yet remaining, in rude forlorn greatness. The old fortresses, or castellated houses, of noble families were, about the beginning of this century, relinquished for more convenient dwellings and ampler accommodation: the title of *Slains Castle* was therefore transferred to the present court of buildings, when the former ceased to be the chief residence of the family.

Among the cliffs between the castles, and opening to the sea, there is a vast cavern, which penetrates far under ground; its innermost recesses yet unexplored. It is called in common "*The Dropping Cave*," from the continual exudations of water falling from the rocks above.

The water filtrating through the vast medium of rock, obtains, by the alchymy of Nature, a petrifying quality, and forms stalactical incrustations, hanging in grotesque figures from the roof of the cavern. They form a species of very fine limestone; and their quantity is such, that they have been used for the improvement of the neighbouring fields.

The engraving will vindicate the mentioning anew the picturesque magnificence of the station of this castle: * “Perch’d, like a falcon’s nest, on the edge of the cliff, the waves roaring in wild eddies round the rocks beneath, and the sea-fowl clamouring above and below, form a strange prospect and singular chorus.” When the easterly storms heave in the vast swell of the *German Ocean*, the breakers rage against the projecting cliffs with formidable greatness, and such impetuosity, that the spray washes the windows, and moistens the air, even over the fields; far beyond the castle.

It will not perhaps be deemed an unavailing repetition, to quote the stately remarks of another learned traveller, who solemnly felt the contemplation of this august scene: † “The walls of one of the towers of the castle seem only a continuation of the perpendicular rock, the foot of which is lashed by the waves. To walk round the house seemed impracticable. From the windows, the eye wanders over the sea that separates *Scotland* from *Norway*, and when the winds beat with violence must enjoy all the terrific grandeur of the tempestuous ocean. I would not, for my amusement, wish for a storm; but as storms, whether wished for or not, will sometimes happen, I may say, without violation of humanity, that I should willingly look out upon them from *Slains Castle*.”

* *Mr. Pennant’s Tour.*

† *Dr. Johnson.*

Per Magill Sculp.

Clendon pux

DUN-DORNADILLA.

SPECIMENS of the ancient architecture of the *Pitls* are now but rarely found, even in the most uncultivated wilds: their remote situations, among the ruggedest mountains, puts it almost out of the power of travellers in general to visit them. Although therefore several views of similar structures have already, at Mr. *Pennant's* instance, been engraved; yet as this is one of the most entire of those buildings, and by its name remarkable in history, it was judged proper to give a representation of it in this collection, as being much better suited to explain the descriptions of these *Pitlsh* towers than that given in the *Antiquities and Scenery*, because it shews the internal structure and arrangements of the lights into the apartments, and is more complete than any other view of it hitherto given. From the almost inaccessible nature of the avenues among the mountains that lead to it, it is not likely that authentic views of it will be often repeated on the spot: a faithful delineation of it is therefore a monument of a species of architecture, any thing like entire remains of which are very few; and it is not probable that any period of society will see the same style of building resumed.

It is not surprising that so few of these ancient castles, once the residences of the chief families, should remain, because it is evidently near a thousand years since the mode of building was changed, by the knowledge of the different kinds of cement, and their application to give strength and greater compactness to fortresses and dwellings.

Such buildings are also in some degree venerable, as memorials of the length that human ingenuity will go, in providing the conveniences of life, in situations which we are apt to imagine the most helpless and forlorn.

It is evident, that in the age when these fabrics were reared, they had no instruments of iron: no stone of them is moulded by a hammer into form, nor is there any fog or other such material used to fill up the interstices among the stones; yet the stones, most artfully laid together, seem to exclude the air, and have been piled with great mathematical care; else could they not have remained in a tower like this, of thirty feet high, so as to have withstood the casualties of a thousand years.

In the ninth century, when the communication of these northern territories with the continent freely opened, they could not fail to learn the use of cement in building, if they had not before discovered it, and to obtain instruments of iron. From these circumstances we may be enabled, in some measure, to ascertain the so much contested æra of *Offian's* heroes, as well as that of the *Pictish* towers. The *Car-born* chief implies a proficiency in arts, almost incompatible with the state of life where the application of metals is unknown.

The bards were men of renown at the above period. When the *Scandinavian* adventurers harassed the coasts of the north of *Scotland* and the *Western Isles*, the commanders of fleets, and the leaders of armies, carried them along to celebrate their achievements, and to narrate the difficulties and dangers which their fortitude and prowess overcame*. The same enthusiasm which inspired the bards in the day of battle, would make them indulge the expression of softer sentiments in days of ease, and strains of lamentation in the pensive hours of sorrow. These hereditary songs might be for a time preserved by oral tradition, and many of them were put on record by a *Danish* historiographer in the island of *Flota*, one of the *Orcades*; and there is reason to believe the poems attributed to *Offian*, the son of *Fingal*, are the production of various bards preserved in the above channel; or he might have been one of the general recorders and collectors of them.

Carried away by these remarks from the particular consideration of the structure represented in the plate, it is only necessary to refer to an ample description of its romantic situation and internal form, given in the article *Dun-Dornadilla*, page 105, &c. of the author's "*Antiquities and Scenery*," where many illustrations are given of the nature, extent, convenience, and general character of these buildings. This one is situated in the central parts of *Strath-Newer*, one large division of the county of *Sutherland*, and is celebrated as a place of renown in an ancient *Erse* ballad of a few lines, of which the following is a translation:

Seven miles from ocean, in the chearful dale,
Stands the large tower, where *Dornadilla* reigns;
From thence, when war or civil feuds prevail,
The warriors pour into the *Caithness* plains.

* See *Torpæus'* authority. *Antiquities and Scenery of Scotland*, p. 150.

FORRES PILLAR.

THIS majestic column, on account of its size*, is the most remarkable of the ancient obelisks now remaining in *North-Britain*. It is called by historians the most stately monument of the *Gothic* kind to be seen in *Europe*. From its magnitude, and the elaborate workmanship wherewith it is covered over, in an early age it may have been a work of national concern; but to what event in history it refers is as yet a matter covered by an impenetrable veil, no authentic tradition nor written record concerning it being extant. Several authors have been profuse in their conjectures concerning the transactions in memory of which it has been raised; a humbler task is at present proposed, that of distinctly ascertaining the sculptures on it:—that care will enable us to judge with more certainty concerning the probability of what historians have alledged; and with that view their testimonies shall be afterwards produced.

The rude figures of the plate, in *Gordon's Itinerarium Septentrionale*, are in general widely different, and in many respects altogether foreign to the truth of those on the column.

A distincter representation was attempted for *Shaw's History of Moray*; but there the figures are for the most part also faulty, and their form imitated in too feeble and puerile a manner.

A more elaborate drawing from it was made at *Mr. Pennant's* instance, and an engraving from it was published in a supplemental volume to his Tour, "*The Antiquities and Scenery of the North of Scotland*;" but the figures are there laid out on too small a scale to render them sufficiently expressive.

As that plate †, however, gives a general idea of the obelisk, it may serve to ascertain the connection of the several departments to be represented at large, as in the annexed specimen. Without quoting the brief summary there narrated of the transactions to which the sculptures of this column may refer, some general remarks shall now be offered, as an illustration of the plate annexed.

* Twenty-five feet in height; three and a half broad, or about four at the base.

† *Antiquities and Scenery of Scotland*, plate vi. p. 54.

At the top there is a warlike band of men: some brandishing their weapons; others, as exulting, hold their shields on high, or are joining hands, in earnest of mutual encouragement and support, and apparently rejoicing in their strength, as a prelude to victory.

In the midst of the next row of figures, two of the warriors appear preparing for, or engaged in, a single combat, while their followers or adherents are looking on with various expression of interest in the conflict.

This custom often of old decided the fate of armies and of war*. Of British chiefs, we have heard of the ambitious and accepted challenge,

“ Let you and I the battle try, and set our men aside†.”

And an instance is mentioned of *Caledonian* story, by Mr. Pennant, where a young Earl of *Caithness*, and the son of an Earl of *Sutherland*, fought a single combat, in which both were slain, while their armies stood looking on‡.

In the square department below, a number of the figures are evidently engaged in the solemnity of a deliberate execution of captives, by beheading of them. Three trumpeters are sounding their trumpets, while one stands with a sword in his hand, in the action of executioner; in the other hand holding the head of one of the captives, just severed from the body, which lies by. Several men with poles, or halberts, are standing round, as guarding a kind of tent or canopy, under which the heads of the dead are deposited, while the bodies are arranged seemingly without the circle: seven are figured as having incurred the above penalty on this occasion.

This, though seemingly a barbarous transaction, has been too often exemplified in the history of polished nations. The piles of heads which were laid at the gates of *Jezreel* § exemplifies its antiquity; and in a more nearly corresponding age, at the siege of *Nantes*, in the thirteenth century of the Christian æra, the Duke of *Normandy* caused the heads of thirty prisoners to be cut off in cold blood. We need not be surprised at the solemnity, therefore, as represented on the obelisk, but at the silence of history with respect to it. The combatants, who are trying their dexterity in pairs, as at the conclusion of the above execution, may be contending in arms, in presence of the chiefs, who best deserves the armour of the slain: the shields placed between them seem to vindicate this allusion.

* 1 Samuel xvii.

† Chevy Chase.

‡ Tour in Scotland, 1769, p. 193.

§ 2 Kings x.

WINGED MARINE WORM.

C. G. Carpenter

WINGED MARINE WORM.

THE singular animal to which is now given the above appellation, is probably a species of the *Laplysia* of *Linnaeus*, and the *Depilatory* of Mr. Pennant*, for three of the characters are applicable :

The body covered with membranes reflected ;
A shield-like membrane on the back ;
Having four feelers resembling ears.

But it is far from " an animal of a simple form," for when unfolded and in its active state it displays such an astonishing apparatus of life, as cannot be beheld without admiration. Indeed the whole œconomy of nature in the submarine regions opens a boundless scene of wonders that remain to be explored, and exhibits in most striking lights the profound intelligence of the patronizing care which has given them such astonishing faculties for their preservation.

The specimen now presented, merits that attention to which a faithful and elaborate drawing from original nature lays claim. In the present, as indeed in every other instance in the departments of Natural History, the subject was preserved for many days alive, and in the most perfect state attainable, so as to give ample scope for observation.

It moves slowly along the rocks, by means of the muscular tegument aa, and by its soft and pliant nature can so completely exclude the air from under it, that when alarmed it adheres so firmly, that no violence, not destructive of the animal, can remove it. At such times it contracts itself amazingly, and is in a manner gathered under its shield. The filament or membrane, whose edge is seen stretching from h to H, includes a shell, in substance like those of the finer muscles, but richly variegated and delicately coloured with a kind of chequer-work, I: this, when drawn over it, forms a useful buckler, to defend it from external injuries; but seems more particularly the appointment of Nature, for the protection of a most complex and delicate organ, which seems essentially connected with its life and nourishment.

* Br. Zool. p. 35 of vol. iv. plate xxi. fig. 21.

A. branched?

A branched cluster of semi-transparent filaments arises from the back of the animal, bearing all around a set of polype-like heads, which are represented at e e e of E, as seen by the assistance of good glasses, for the animal itself on the plate is the size of life. This appears to be a system of suckers, by which it inhales nourishment; for when little bits of fish, &c. were made to float near them, they laid hold of them, and seemed to extract their juices with great energy, for it was difficult to disengage the attracted morsel, without injuring the organ which had laid hold on it.

This arrangement of polypes communicate with the body of the animal by two tubular stems, as at G, G.

The external folding membranes F, F, which spread like wings, act the part of tentacula, by bringing substances that fall within their reach down to these suckers; for when the wings were waving in the water, if any atom of fishy substance was put in their way, they immediately folded down with it, and shut it in, so as that the polype system might have it wholly in their power.

Between the two front feelers of the head, like horns B, B, and the two hind ones, like ears c c, are its small and clear eyes, which it often shuts, and renders almost indiscernable.

The under part of the head, with the appearance of its mouth, is represented at D.

The organ which spreads from between the wings, and has been now particularly investigated, having, to the best of the author's knowledge, hitherto escaped the observation of naturalists, was therefore examined with deliberate care and scrupulous attention, during repeated efforts to ascertain the truth, while completing the drawing. The animal itself, though when taken from its native element it lost many of its most expressive and distinguishing characters, is preserved in spirits, as containing a memorial of these facts, of which it is impossible to give other ocular demonstration to those who live at a distance from the sea-shore.

K I N L O S S A B B E Y.

THIS abbey was pleasantly situated, in a rich spot, at the head of the bay of *Findhorn*, which is a small sea-port town of *Murray*, lying opposite to *Forres*, where stands the superb Obelisk, described in this and the preceding Number. The bay is commodious for small trading vessels, which is of much consequence to the adjacent country. The river *Erne* here empties itself into the firth; its banks are some of the finest lands of this fertile province: and very considerable portions of them were dedicated to support the ecclesiastical establishments of the abbey. It was founded by *David I.* in 1150, who endowed it with certain lands, forming boundaries within which the abbot held a regality. The abbot was mitted, and had a seat in parliament; to maintain this rank, with suitable dignity, king *William* appropriated several additional farms, to be cultivated for the benefit of the abbey, and under the inspection and care of ecclesiastics. *Ascelinus* was the name of its first abbot, who came to the possession of it in the middle of the twelfth century, with a body of monks from *Melrofs*.

The revenues of the abbey, in 1561, amounted to £.1,152, and near sixty chalders of victual, besides tythes of sheep, geese, capons, and poultry.

It had been otherwise sumptuously endowed; for, among many expensive pieces of plate, and sacred furniture, belonging to it, a silver laver is mentioned, which weighed two hundred and forty ounces.

When government permitted these religious establishments to be dissolved, the lands had still their representative in parliament; this gave rise to some temporary and nominal superiorities, which conveyed a title to sit in the great council of the nation. When, at the reformation, the office of abbot was here disannulled, the honour of his seat in parliament was granted to *Edward Bruce*, to which he was promoted by the title of *Lord Kinloss*, without being put in possession of the abbey lands: Sometimes, however, the temporalities were also granted to noblemen who merited, or laid claim to, such indulgence from the crown. Thus the emoluments of the lands which had supported the Catholic establishments for several centuries in *Scotland*, became sequestrated again to secular purposes, and reverted into their former channels.

On examining the historical fragments that remain concerning the decay of these sacred edifices, one cannot help being struck with the various fate they have been destined to undergo. For some time after the Presbyterian manner of worship had taken place, the grand church of the abbey was the place of divine service. But one *, who had purchased the abbey lands, observing "that the buildings were far more extensive than were requisite for a *Kirk*, and that the stones were excellently squared, large, and well calculated for buildings of strength, he agreed to build a new place of worship for the parish, with which they were well pleased, and then had full liberty to pull the abbey to pieces; with barbarous haste he did so, making traffic of the stones, many of which were bought for building the castle at *Inverness*."

Remains of finely fluted columns, however, and venerable walls, which yet support the highly ornamental vaulted roofs of some detached parts of the ruins; fragments of rich capitals, and cornices half-buried in the soil; still give an inviting air of forlorn grandeur to the consecrated ground.

"The prior's chamber, two semicircular arches, the pillars, the couples of several of the roofs, afford specimens of the most beautiful gothic architecture, in all the elegance of simplicity, without any of its fantastic ornaments. Near the abbey is an orchard of apple and pear trees, at least coeval with the last monks: numbers lie prostrate; their venerable branches seem to have taken fresh roots, and were laden with fruit, beyond what could be expected from their antique look †."

It is said ‡ the abbey was erected in memory of a miraculous blow of flowers, which hallowed a royal grave §; for it was the burying-place of many a Scottish monarch.

* *Alexander Brodie, of Lethem.*

† *Mr. Pennant.*

‡ *Dampier.*

§ See *Antiq. and Scenery*, 60.

BALVENY CASTLE,

An ancient and respectable Fortrefs, in the Parish of *Mortlach*, and upper District of *Banffshire*.

THE situation is such as would be eligible in an early age, for a place of strength, of observation, and security. It is a circular mount, which on three sides is pretty steep; and a natural hollow, augmented and improved by art, in a manner insulates it on the fourth. This gave opportunity of consulting with great effect the additional safety gained by a ditch and rampart, drawn round on the declivity, at a little distance from the walls of the castle. In such situations the very ancient *Pictish* buildings, in the remoter districts of the north, are often found *: and this seems to confer some validity on the current tradition of the country, that the castle of old was called the *Pichts* or *Pictish* Tower †. There are, however, still stronger references to the existence of a place of considerable strength here, about the beginning of the eleventh century ‡; which being an æra prior to the building of *Windsor Castle*, and nearly cœval with the *Tower of London*, we are not to be surprised that our accounts of it then are indistinct, and the annals of military transactions in that period dubious.—Some monuments indicate, and concurring traditions affirm, that the adjacent plain had been a field of battle in an early age. Swords, sabres, and horse-shoes, of antique forms, have been repeatedly dug up in those parts, and are the most authentic evidences of the fall of foreign enemies there. Our historians generally agree, that this was the memorable defeat of the *Danish* or *Norwegian* forces under *Enecus* or *Enetus*, by king *Malcolm II.*, about the year 1010 §. A huge stone, which stands not far from the castle of *Balveny*, is pointed to, as marking out the grave of the *Danish* general; but as it is void of sculpture, the time or intention of its being erected there, cannot now be positively ascertained.

That *Balveny Castle* was an eminent place of strength, and formerly held of high consequence, is evident from hence; “that through all the periods to which our more authentic histories extend, the possession of this fortrefs was an object of ambition to the most noble and powerful families of the kingdom. ||” But among the numerous fragments of obliterated carvings and broken coats of arms, which had been placed over the windows and on various parts of this venerable structure, the only memorial of its former possessors, which can now be distinctly traced, is the

* See *Antiquities and Scenery*, p. 73, &c.

† See *Gordon's Itiner. Septentrionale*, p. 153, &c.

|| *The Cummings, Douglasses, and Stewarts*, in succession.

‡ *Pichts Wark*.

§ See *Fordun, Beece, Buchanan, &c.*

motto belonging to the *Stewarts* earls of *Arbol* *, which they had caused to be engraved in very large old capitals on a scroll, that extends along a great part of the front of the castle, nearly over the gateway; and which part had probably been built while it was in the possession of that family. The buildings towards the south-west corner, where unwieldy strength, more than elegance or convenience, seems to have been studied, were prior to the above æra; and it received some other additions after it was conveyed from the *Arbol* family. The whole buildings, when entire, formed an ample court, inclosing an area of forty or fifty yards diameter. One circular and very large tower on the south-east corner, which commanded the gateway, is a lofty monument of the strength of this fortress. On the other angles are the remains of small turrets, from whence to watch the motions of a distant enemy, or to annoy the assailants on their approach. The front is spacious, and still preserves in its appearance the rude vestiges of its early grandeur. The windows, which are generally larger than usual in those places of defence, are therefore strongly guarded by cross bars of massy iron; and the iron gate, of enormous weight, still hangs on its rusty hinges, and strikes one, on entering, with the formidable idea of the troubled æra in which it had come from the anvil.

The mount on which the castle stands commands the prospect of a rich and spacious valley, inclosed with sloping hills, on whose declivities the alder, ash, birch, and hazel, intermixed with the wild cherry-trees, enrich the banks of the river *Fiddich*, which winds through the dale, and adds beauty and fertility to the adjacent fields: whilst the country around rises into mountainous scenes, where the plantations of *Scotch* firs, and other forest trees, vary with their dark verdure the glowing heath, and are thriving apace under the auspices of the present earl of *Fife*, over those heights, where strength of vegetation seemed to have been denied.

In the midst of the valley, the late earl, when proprietor of the demesne, chose rather to erect an elegant modern seat, than to add to the incommodious buildings of his predecessors in the ancient fortress.

This edifice, to which the ruins of the ancient castle, with the woods and mountains around, form excellent vistas, is only seen here in the distant part of the landscape. As a spacious rural retirement it has ample accommodations; and in beauty of situation is scarce inferior to any of the numerous country seats which belong to that noble family.

* *FVRTB FORTVIN AND FIL THI FATTRIS.*

FORRES PILLAR.

BOETIUS, and some other of our more early historians, struck with the peculiar characters, and remarkable number of the monuments of the obelisk kind, in *North Britain*, adorned with sculptured figures of beasts, birds, and fishes; apparently hieroglyphics; were impressed with a high idea of their origin, and inferred from them—"That the first colonies which planted or civilized *Caledonia* were of *Egyptian* extraction; and that these sculptured stones were an evidence how long "they had retained the customs of that celebrated country."

And although Mr. *Gordon* was fully aware of the extravagance of that reflection—for he gravely quotes * *Bishop Nicholson's* authority for calling it "one of *Hector Boetius's* fancies †"—yet the thought has been probably, somehow or other, the cause of his being betrayed into so extraordinary a delineation of that part of the column at *Forres*, which is represented in the annexed plate. For he has given a fow, and a sphinx, and a centaur, and some camels with human heads—instead of the six men on horseback, who are flying before a pursuing enemy on foot.

One thing, however, it is but justice to remark, that a cursory observation of these sculptures, is not sufficient to apprehend their original forms, and ascertain their identity. They are carved out in pretty high *relievo*, and many of the more projecting parts of the figures are crumbled down through the unavoidable injuries of weather and time. In many lights, the real outlines are scarce discernible: 'twas necessary, therefore, to examine their effect in the sunshine, both before and after noon, ere the dubious forms could be ascertained with precision. The most discerning eye will scarcely be able at once to discover the whole expression of the sculptures. Instead of the indefinite description, therefore, "of figures of a monstrous form, with men standing by them, holding obscure weapons in their hands," the upper compartment of this plate shews, that the first line of the victorious party, who have put the horse to flight, are distinctly armed with bows and arrows; followed by others with drawn swords in their right hands, and targets on their left arms. And on the lower compartment, which Mr. *Gordon* had not taken time to delineate at all to any purpose, the troop of horse are evidently seized by the military on foot, who had routed, and were pursuing them, as above; and

* Iter. Septen. p. 159.

† *Scotch Hist. Library*, p. 64.

another solemnity, of beheading the captives, had taken place : one of the heads is distinguished, as placed in a frame, fixed to a kind of arched canopy ; which may be an expression of resentment similar to its being hung in chains. And under that covering, whatever it may imply, the rest of the decapitated bodies are disposed.

It is obvious, that the actions and attitudes of the human figures, considered in this and the former structure on *Forres Pillar*, are in many respects very awkwardly designed : and yet, when we reflect on its being the work of the tenth or eleventh century, it is rather a matter of surprise, that they are executed so well. The sculptures on it are perhaps superior to any performances of the same age, either in *England* or on the continent. At that period the arts, and all *Europe*, were but emerging from the dreadful shade which the *Gothic* devastations occasioned. In the tenth century * many princes, and pontiffs, could not subscribe their names ; and the representations of emperors and saints, made by artists on the windows of churches, and on missals, do not far exceed in expression the copies of them made in the grotesque figures which form the motley pictures of the kings on cards. —Instead of the remark that has been made, of these structures on the monuments not allowing an early enough date to the progress of literature in *Scotland* ; there may be now some fallacy suspected in the delineation of this and the other columns, because they evince that the imitative arts had attained a greater degree of perfection in *Caledonia* than in almost any other part of *Europe*, in the periods immediately succeeding what are called the dark ages. But as facts, and not theories, are all that are here establishing, it is only requisite to mention, that where any somewhat obliterated parts of the obelisks are more accurately defined than what these weather-beaten sculptures may suggest to a spectator on cursory observation — they are either the effect of more attentive consideration ; or, if conjecture is ever allowed to interpret any dubious vestige, it was rather in favour of a natural and rational, than quaint or absurd idea ; a principle which, in all antiquarian or historical speculation, is certainly philosophically just.

* History of the Emperor Charles V.

Platystrophia

Platystrophia

The COMMON LIMPET, or PATELLA.

IT is remarkable, that in the histories of shell-fish, and from very respectable authorities, the Limpet should be represented as a most inert, formless, and torpid animal, immoveably fixed to the same rock *, and constantly adhering so close, as rendered it a mystery which way they could subsist †.

The general appearance of this shell-fish, when found above low-water mark, and the difficulty of disengaging it from its place of abode, had first suggested these opinions, and continued to countenance them, in the view of such enquirers into nature, as have not given the subject a particular examination.

It was therefore presumed, that it might be acceptable to those who have not opportunity of surveying the animals of the *Patella* race, in their native element, to have a delineation of the structure of one, as a specimen, presented to them, with a narration of some particulars in their manner of life.

The inside view of the shell D, given at A, with the animal alive in it, shews around B the front of a strong, cartilaginous, muscular mass, wherewith it adheres at pleasure with amazing firmness to the rocks, and by the various movements of which, it creeps along in search of pasture, with an equable steady pace, in any direction, as instinct prompts. During this progress the horns or feelers seem actively engaged in examining the nature of the substances wherewith the rocks are covered, and no doubt have the capacity of ascertaining how far the course is eligible, and the substances good for food; for sometimes the feelers seem offended, and retract, and then the line of walk is altered. "Here," says the Limpet, "am I travelling in search of wholesome nourishment; if I find it in this field, I shall remain, and exhaust its treasures; if not, I will seek after a richer soil, and productions of the rock that are more to my taste."

In the head of the animal magnified at C, in the middle of its strange mouth there is shewn the form of a kind of grater, which it moves up and down with considerable force and quickness; and seems to be an instrument of teeth, provided by nature, for rubbing off the nutrimental substances from the rock and seaweed.

* *Buffon*

† *Spectacle de la Nature.*

The inside of the shell is cloathed with a moveable membrane, finely ramified with purple and various-coloured veins, which terminate at the margin of it in a series of fibres, e e, severally animated; these are a set of retractile polype-like organs, which in various modes are ever waving about in the water, probably also inhaling nourishment; and may be the instruments employed in making the continually necessary additions to its shell.

The filament which generally covers the inside of the shell, it can retract and expand at pleasure; and at a little distance from the edge, a curiously-wrought intestine runs round it like net-work, each several part of which is often in motion, like the play of lungs.

While the Limpet was under consideration, there appeared several minute, uncommon living creatures darting about in the water, of a semi-transparent substance; two of these, which were got confined, so as to be examined by the microscope, are figured on the plate at G g, and F f, (the small letters indicating their natural size): unknown to what tribes they belong.

They were occasionally caught by the rapid movements of the tentacula of the *Accom* or *Barnacle*, H h, and instantly swallowed by it;—some proof that its blind activity is not exerted in vain.

This genus is called by *Linnaeus*, LEPAS. The specimen here produced at h, is of a very beautiful form; and seems somewhat different from the *Cornish* (*Br. Zool.* vol. IV. plate XXXVII. fig. 6), or any of the other kinds there figured. But the incessant celerity wherewith they play in the water, and the impossibility of arresting them in an expanded state, evincing the difficulty of critically ascertaining their form, were an incitement to attempt it, and the chief reason for giving it a place on the annexed plate; where the general appearance of its fibrous claws, or active tentacula, are represented at H. The object of these strictures being not so much to distinguish shells by their external form, as to unfold the properties and œconomy of their living inhabitants.

View near *BERRIDALE CASTLE*, in *CAITHNESS*.

A VAST range of mountains pervades *Sutherland*, and terminates in the immense promontory of the *Ord* of *Caithness*, which presents to the east some of the loftiest cliffs that are beat by the *German* ocean. From the top of these cliffs, when one approaches the verge, and looks down to the sea, it impresses the mind with a kind of awful sense of an airy, exalted, and dangerous situation. The very road for horses and carriages across this head-land, winds along the precipices, impending in many parts over the sea; so that the traveller beholds a dreadful depth of air, the sea roaring beneath; but heard from such a height sounds as a far distant murmur. These cliffs, Mr. Pennant says, “are infinitely more high and horrible, than *the Penmaen Mawr*,” of *Wales*, which is so celebrated for its terrific grandeur. The caverns which yawn beneath, and run far under ground, are the gloomy retreats of seals and sea fowl; the former find rich food in the lump-fish, which breed among the lower rocks; and the latter build their nests on the shelves within the caves, abodes which they know are seldom visited or accessible to the human kind.

On descending the north side of the *Ord*, and entering the *County of Caithness*, the ruins of *Berridale Castle*, in a peninsulated situation, on a ridge of rocks, appears on the right; on the left, arable lands in a deep bottom, enriched with small woods of alders, birch, and willows; these too, frequently cloath the rocky hills, and the country round abounds with stags and roes; in the moors are all sorts of feathered game.

From the steep face of a hill, which rises beyond *Berridale* and fronts the *Ord*, there is a right romantic view of two bridges, over the *Berridale* and *Langwal* rivers, and of the openings into the woody glens through which they run: this prospect is given in the Plate. An ancient burying-ground, to which there is now no place of worship near, affords the lonely entertainment of moss-grown grave-stones, on which are traces of decayed sculpture, but too indefinite long to engage attention.

The shattered remains of *Ach Castle*; the vestiges of a circular tower; the adjacent hamlets, and village of *Ausdale*, are the only other objects that conciliate notice, in passing through this entrance into the more level lands of *Caithness*.

Though *Caithness* be a champaign country, the coast is in general bold and rocky; large masses of the precipitous cliffs, detached from the main, often forming

ing insulated pyramids hollowed through with lofty arches; and columns of vast height, the foaming surges beating round their bases, are striking objects in the august scenery which they afford. Old castles are frequently remarkable on the head-lands impending over the sea: and this stile of coast continues all the way to the beach beyond *Dungby-head*, commonly called *John-a-groat's house*, that being the name of a man who long kept the ferry boat, which passes between *Scotland* and the *Orkades*.

CASTLE of AUCHINDOWN.

THE barony of *Auchindown*, in the parish of *Mortlach**, is situated at the entrance of the interior and more hilly part of *Banffshire*, upon the river *Fiddich*, above its junction with the *Dullan*, which separates it from the lordship of *Balveny*; and contains some valuable lands. The castle has a very conspicuous and lofty situation; placed on the summit of a conical rocky mount, on the west side of the river, near to the entrance of the forest of *Glenfidich*, and almost opposite to that remarkable pass the *Glacks* of the *Ballach*; it is accessible on one side only; and well calculated for the command as well as the protection of all that part of the country. The castle is walled round, and without the wall a deep ditch and masonry rampart encircles the top of the hill; but the principal part of this remarkable fortress is a very strong vaulted tower of three stories high; the central apartment of which is spacious, and well finished in an admirable gothic style, several pairs of fluted pilasters, raised in freestone, are spread out in branches above their capitals, and form a well-imagined embellishment to the arched roof; which gives it much the appearance of a gothic church. The windows, as is usual in such buildings, are high and narrow on the outside; but open in a sloping manner as they pass through the wall, which is of an extraordinary thickness; and having well-formed seats of hewn stone projecting from the sides, they form a kind of small apartments adjoining to the great hall, where half a dozen inferior vassals or attendants might dine in each, who perhaps, by the military etiquette of chieftainry, could not be permitted to sit at the principal table. The chiefs of those turbulent times, actuated by a specious policy, generally reared their chief residence, where the largest tracts of fertile land most readily administered the abundant harvest. Their castles of course became in some measure the granaries of the adjacent districts. This provision secured one great means of liberally entertaining their military vassals; and it is probable that the festive board and carousal, which was too often the delusive premium of the intrepidity and courage shewn in maintaining the interest of their chiefs, while they stimulated the spirit of warlike enterprise, might be greatly instrumental in fomenting those feuds which so often laid waste the country. On such occasions the Bards "were wont to kindle the wild heroic fire, by singing the exploits of arms, at the feast in the halls of joy."

The Castle of *Auchindown*, with several others in those territories, are said to have been built in the eleventh century, as fortresses to protect the country from the depredations of the *Norse* and *Danish* invaders: but from the style of building and species of masonry which it now exhibits, it appears more probable that it was erected in the end of the fourteenth or beginning of the fifteenth century; for in 1519 it first rises into some importance in the history of *Scotland*. The nation was at that time liable to be dreadfully harassed by the feuds of the nobles, and by frequent civil wars

* By those who look deep into the derivation of names from the ancient *Gaelic*, which probably was the original language of this whole island, *Mortlach* is said to have been so called from *Mor-lagh*, i. e. "large valley;" being enclosed by a mountainous region, which entitles the more level and arable part to that denomination. The *Fiddich* had received its name from the great number of forest-trees that are spread over the sides of a long winding glen through which it runs: thence poetically characterized, *Fid-dich*, "the woody stream." The other rivulet, *The Dullan*, had, in the same manner, received its distinguishing appellation from the sudden torrents from the mountains, which by their rapidity, and the obstructions met with in its winding channel, are so frequently observed to overflow its banks, and render it impassable, incurring the epithet of *Duiln-àon*, "the place of floods."

which their contests occasioned. The consultation of their safety, therefore, obliged the powerful chieftains to construct places of strength and defence, for the protection of their families and dependants in times of danger. And all who had sufficient influence with the crown obtained royal permission and authority for that purpose. *Auchindown* seems to have been one of those built at the instance of the family of *Findlater*.

Alexander Lord *Ogilvie* held this barony, in 1520, as part of the lordship of *Desford*. At that period he married *Elizabeth*, a lady of the family of *Gordon*; forming a connection that awed the northern counties; but an alarming dissention sprung forth from it, that well nigh counterbalanced all its salutary effects. By settlements in consequence of this alliance, the estate and barony of *Auchindown* were consigned to a collateral heir of the family of *Gordon*; *Sir James Ogilvie* of *Cardel*, son and heir of Lord *Alexander* by a former marriage, being abroad, in *France*, with *QUEEN MARY*, as master of her horse-guards, at the time. On his return with her majesty into *Scotland*, he reclaimed his heritable possessions, and threatened to defend his lawful title to *Auchindown* by force of arms. The contest between the representatives of these noble families was on the eve of embroiling the north in all the horrors of civil war; when, by the mediation of some judicious men of rank, solicitous to preserve the public quiet, and equally friends of the contending parties, it was agreed to submit the cause to the arbitration of *QUEEN MARY*; and her too artful counsellor the *Earl of Murray* lent his aid in the decision.

The *QUEEN*, being come north, received in person the keys of *Findlater Castle* and of *Auchindown*, in testimony of the implicit submission to be paid to her decrees; and peace and future unanimity was solemnly sworn to by the families at variance, and ratified, with all the grandeur of religious ceremony, before the high altar of *St. Ann's Church* in *Cullen*.

By the royal determination, the barony and castle of *Auchindown* devolved on *Sir Adam Gordon*, who afterwards acted a distinguished part in the civil wars that embittered the latter part of *QUEEN MARY's* reign.

The *Earl of Murray*, for his good offices in being umpire along with *MARY* in settling the dispute, laid hold on the ample fields of *Strath-Nairn*, an estate which the family of *Findlater* had in *Invernesshire*, and annexed it to his possessions.

In consequence of these concessions, *Alexander* Lord *Findlater* and *Sir James*, his son, had all the other lands and estates to which they had laid claim confirmed and ratified to them. A very sumptuous monument, a most splendid and beautiful piece of gothic architecture, is placed over the tomb of the above nobleman and his lady, who united the interests of these powerful families; on which some sculptures merit particular attention, and a plate of it shall therefore be engraved for the next number.

Enteromorpha flexilis

SPERMATOPHYTES

Pinus sylvestris

SPIRAL SERPULÆ, &c.

BY a representation of these complex assemblages of marine productions, which are found together on select pieces of *algæ*, some idea is communicated of the ever-varying entertainment, which may be derived, from examining the endless diversity of ways in which life operates among them.

The uncommon modes of existence, which actuate animated being in the deep retreats of the ocean, impart sensations of surprise and pleasure, which virtually attract our notice and conciliate a livelier interest in the minutest detail of particulars in their history. From the nature of the research that leads to these particulars, the whole, for ages, can be but partially known.

On the blade of *algæ*, &c. exhibited in the plate, there are four several subjects which merit attention.

I. The *Spiral Serpulæ* wherewith it is studded (specified *Br. Zool.* vol. IV. p. 127) a minute tender shell, wreathed like the *cornu ammonis*, found always immoveably fixed, on various shells and crustacea, as well as adhering to several kinds of seaweed. These shells, represented in their natural size on the leaf which occupies the middle part of the plate, are highly magnified at A. A. A. where several forms are shewn, in which the *terrebelleæ*, their inhabitants, issue from the spiral cells. B. is a more full and perfect view of the elegant organ which is its chief instrument for inhaling nourishment, than could easily be exhibited in a general delineation of the animal.—While one of these was under inspection with the aquatic microscope, it seemed to labour under some oppression, and after several throes, a number of animated particles, of a tadpole form, as a. a. a. came forth from among its rays; severally, and by slow degrees, disengaging themselves from a viscous substance, which seemed to retard their progress; but soon were seen with great vivacity sporting in the water. No part of natural history is more involved in obscurity than the manner in which several kinds of Buckies produce their young. Perhaps the above may have been the living offspring of the *Spiral Serpulæ*, which, after being awhile at liberty to choose a proper place of residence, may be endowed by nature with a capacity of forming and fixing the shell, so needful to protect the tender and delicate system of their organization.

II. Another thing observable on these shores, may be here remarked; that at the bottom of the pools, frequented by the *buccinum ore rotundo*, there are found little animated eggs, as at f. f. f. with a circle of active tentacula issuing from the top, which.

which may be the ovaria of the above Buckie.—Mr. *Ellis** expected to have found something of this kind of life belonging to the *cyathus marinus*. That little sea-cup or egg, is the ovary of the *purpura*, or *buccinum ore depresso*; for all the *cyathi* marine contain the purple dye; which seems only to have been hitherto extracted from the seminal vessels of the animal. The above ingenious author only, therefore, so far erred in calling it the ovarium of the periwinkle.

Every remark, though indefinite, drawn from actual observation, merits attention, as leading forward to fuller discussions; for from these materials, more regular narratives and illustrations of this part of natural history may be formed.

III. At e. e. on the *algæ*, is represented a glutinous substance, as it appears to the naked eye, seeming only a kind of speckled semi-transparent jelly: but on being highly magnified is found, an assemblage of spirited animals, which alternately dart forth from, and retreat into, regular rows of elastic cells, in form of living flowers, as delineated at E. Whether an ovarium or distinct species of animal, its extreme minuteness has yet rendered uncertain.

IV. The very beautiful coralline, on the point of the leaf at c. and magnified at C. is found in great abundance on the sea-weed of this coast, under low-water mark. Mr. *Ellis* takes notice of it in his Essay on Corallines, p. 71; but did not obtain specimens sufficiently alive, to see the form of the polypes which occupy these elegant abodes. It is only here marked, on account of the repeated opportunities of admiring the subtle dexterity and delicate frame of the little animal that forms these alabaster grottos. Their general appearance is marked at D:—and D. I. is a single ray of the tentacula highly magnified: but no pencil or description can do justice to its amazingly minute and delicate structure. Each tentacula is doubly feathered along the edges; and these edges move with inconceivable rapidity, even at times when the general system of rays remains quietly spread; and, while this rapid motion of parts, so exquisitely formed, baffles conjecture with respect to their use; it gives a marvellous expression of the infinitely fine particles of which that element is composed, which gives no seeming resistance to the play of organs so amazingly minute and delicate.

In these departments of nature, we behold the influence of an original energy, which, with virtual power, has diffused such life through the whole scale of animated being; and feel the awe, inspired by solemn reflection on the GREAT FIRST CAUSE; which has so variously distributed active existence throughout the myriads of forms which adorn this astonishing universe of things.

* Essay on Corallines, 87.

History of *FORRES PILLAR*.—Part 3d.

THE several portions of this column, given in these plates, are so contrived in the execution, that they may be pasted together; so that any one, whose curiosity may prompt him to see the general effect of the whole, may thus have a kind of model of this remarkable monument.

The upper division of the east front of the pillar, given in the annexed plate, consisting principally of nine uniform horses with their riders, with some waving embellishment above, does not require any great length of comment: the obliterated state in which the figures now appear, and the indefinite expression of the ornaments, are such as admit of little farther illustration of their import.

The greatest part of the reverse of the pillar is occupied by a sumptuous cross; the enrichments of which are a curious and elaborate performance; of these a sufficient specimen is given in plate VI. of *Antiquities and Scenery of Scotland*. The figures on the pedestal under the cross are alluded to in the following observations, which conclude its history.

It was mentioned among the previous remarks on this superb monument, that what former historians had said of the representations on it, should be cited; but they all seem to coincide with, or are taken from, those of Mr. Gordon, *Itinerarium Septentrionale*; where, although he mentions the total defeat of the *Scandinavians*, he is very doubtful of the traditionary appropriation of the sculptures on the column to that event. "Why this obelisk was raised, or how to explain the several figures thereon, I am," says he, "at a loss; but cannot forbear thinking that it was erected by the *Scots* after the battle of *Murtlach**." And Mr. Guthrie, who seems to follow his opinions, had taken but a cursory view of the pillar, when he says, "It is adorned with rude sculptures which are now unintelligible, but represent warlike trophies and marches."

A full delineation, however, of the several arrangements of the figures implied by the sculptures on it, being now, by these plates, laid before the encouragers of this publication, they are enabled to judge of the propriety of the application of the following anecdotes to the subject, in elucidating the general tradition concerning it, that it was erected in memory of the defeat of the *Danes*.

It appears from the annals of *Torfaeus*†, that a body of *Scandinavian* adventurers, joined by chieftains from *Caithness*, in the ninth century, had established

* Page 159.

† *Antiquities and Scenery*, p. 128, &c.

themselves,

themselves, and formed a fortress at the *Burgh-head* of *Moray*; which residence gave them an ample and a favourable range for foraging, and seizing on the live stock of that rich and fertile province.

These invaders kept regular possession of that strong hold for near a hundred and fifty years; during which time they made many successful depredations, and strove, with various fortune, to establish inland colonies.

In these sanguine endeavours to extend their sway, and at the same time secure a more speedy retreat to their lines, when carrying off booty, or baffled in any attempt, the aid of cavalry was of essential and almost indispensable importance, and naturally became the distinguishing characteristic of their forces.

Of consequence, as it was the great object of *Caledonian* policy and valour to seize their horses, in order to defeat their enterprizes; so when, in a fortunate period, they succeeded in totally routing the *Scandinavian* bands, and compelling them to leave their shores, if they wished to erect a conspicuous memorial of the event, the most striking article would be to exhibit the seizure of the horses, and the inflicting of capital penalty on their riders; and this is done in the most conspicuous departments of the column.

It is moreover evident, from the concurring testimony of history and tradition, that part of the troops and warlike adventurers which had embarked in the grand expedition undertaken by *Olaus* Prince of *Norway*, about the year 1,000*, did reinforce the garrison at *Eccialfbacca*, or the *Burgh of Moray*, and made some daring advances towards the subduing of the surrounding countries—and that soon after that period, their repeated defeats induced them wholly to relinquish their settlements in that province.

No event was therefore more likely to become a subject of national gratitude and honour, than those actions in which the princes of *Norway* and their military adherents were totally defeated, and which so fully paved the way for returning peace to smile over these harassed and extensive territories. And, in consequence of the *Scandinavian* forces finally evacuating their posts, a treaty of amicable alliance might be formed between *Malcolm* and *Canute*—or *Sueno* king of *Norway*: and the august figures on the base of the cross have been sculptured to express that important reconciliation.—While the figures on the adjacent edge of the obelisk, which are joined hand in hand, and in attitudes of friendly communication, may allude to the new degrees of mutual confidence and security which took place after the feuds were settled, that are represented on the front of the column.

* See Extracts from *Torfaeus*, Sect. III. in *Antiquities and Scenery of Scotland*.

CASCADE in GLEN-QUOICH, MAR-FOREST.

THIS is a long, winding, wooded valley, of *Mar-Forest*. Its rivulet falls into the *Dee*, near to *Craggan*, the rock whose tower marks the opening into *Dale-more*, where *Mar-Lodge*, the Earl of *Fife*'s hunting seat, is situated. The entrance into the glen is rocky; the channel of the rivulet bounded by precipices; in some places these nearly approach each other; and fine picturesque cascades are formed by the torrents rushing over the rocks between.

To one of the most romantic falls, Lord *Fife* has lately added a high embellishment, by throwing a wooden bridge over it. Under the protection and shade of the adjacent rock, a kind of seat or hermitage is formed, from whence the cliffs, the bridge, and fall of the foaming rivulet, have a very picturesque and pleasing effect. These circumstances determined the choice of the prospect presented in the annexed plate. Such situations, romantic by nature, it has been, in every polished age, the object of taste to improve. Even artificial solitudes and grottos are contrived to suggest the ennobling ideas of the more secluded wilds of creation. The serious philosopher, and gay enthusiast, equally delight in these retirements. In the solitary scene, retired from the intrusion of the world, fancy finds seemingly fairer and more open fields wherein to play; ranging over nature, unconfined and free, can more delight itself with various speculation; in undisturbed quiet the treasures of thought more liberally unfold.

Philosophy, naturally fair, frequents the solitary scene; comes forth from the cave and the clefts of the rock, like the nymph of the mystic cell, and charms the world with her divine enchantments. To mark how the wild flowers spring, what varied foliage gives unusual grace, what livelier tints glow among the offspring of uncultivated nature: to admire the spangled insects that build among the sand, or trace the labyrinths of the slender shells, whose animals choose the mosses of the rock for their concealed abode: or in more vacant mood, to listen to the soft whispers of the breeze, that sighs among the boughs of the aged trees, whose shade embrowns the solitude, and be soothed with the wild murmurs of the torrent, which echo among the cliffs in its fall—are the blest recreations of these sweet solitudes, where mankind

N

seem

seem restored to the sacred abodes of primæval and uncorrupted nature, where all is harmony and peace! and after which, when involved with the busy scenes of life, and among the amusements of vanity, they are found to sigh in vain.

From the gentler entertainments of the rocky solitudes of the glen, by ascending the hill that rises over it, towards the meridian sun, one advances as to prospects of a more magnificent world. From that high point of view, a vast extent of the forest appears spread out, in all the majestic forms and forlorn greatness of an unbounded wilderness.

Deep under the eye a vast sweep of desert country, forming an immense valley, stretches up with unlimited gradations into the declivities of the surrounding mountains: decaying timber among the frequent rocks that spread the rugged soil—and lofty trees, many hoary in their fall, along the banks of the streams—express the length of years the forest has remained an uncultivated waste, and add the weight of high antiquity to the grand effect of their wild arrangements.

The eye, wandering over this spacious vale to where it remotely swells into more elevated countries, is, in a manner, fixed in wonder on that enormous accumulation of rising grounds, which, heaved at length into the region of the clouds, constitute the vast, the prodigious mountain of BEN-I-BORD. Its bleak and barren top, raised high in air, shews in its shades those everlasting snows which summer suns have not had power to dissolve, and looks over the misty wreaths which encircle it, with an awful grandeur; while the clouds which float down the hollows of the mountain, and successively overshadow its intermediate swells, give solemn testimony and mighty expression to the immense magnitude and unlimited extent of that vast aggregate of hills which are there accumulated into one, from a circumference of at least twenty miles around. The elevated pleasures which these august prospects afford; the native majesty of these great original scenes of creation, where all is wild and magnificent; the purity of the air, and distinctness of vision, enjoyed on the heights of the mountains; probably contribute no less in spreading the autumnal charm which captivates the sportsman, and in affording high health and recreation, than all the entertainment and joy of enterprize which the engagements of the chase and of fowling inspire.

CASTLE of DESKFORD, BANFFSHIRE.

THESE castellated houses, in the æra of their grandeur, when the barons held their manors by a kind of feudal tenure from the crown, and exercised a legal jurisdiction throughout the circuit of land so vested in them, were not only the most conspicuous objects in the landscape of the country, but beheld with veneration, as the tribunals of equity and justice, the residences of the protectors of the surrounding lands, the seats of hospitality and honour.

The frequent contests and bloodshed, occasioned by the wild ambitions and daring enterprizes of the barons against one another, previous to the fifteenth century, gave but too serious cause for erecting the strong holds in insulated situations, and on rocks; where a dreadful security could be the only motive for the choice of so uncomfortable places of residence. We happily stand astonished at the sight of these dwellings, placed on rocky mounts and precipices, having now but faint ideas of the turbulent state of society which rendered fortresses necessary to the security and quiet of every opulent family.

But, after the fifteenth century, when the loyal barons more formally placed themselves under the standard of the crown, by royal authority licences were granted them for building castles to protect their chartered lands; the security and defence of these became then a national care, and their rights were maintained by the influence and arms of the government.

More eligible situations then were chosen for the seats of the Nobles, among the richest and most central banks of the vallies, where the towers could command the prospect of the most extensive tract of fertile country; and they adopted a more commodious and elegant stile of building, in proportion to the additional peace and security, which acting in union with the administrations of the state afforded.

The extensive and fine valley of DESKFORD, for several miles inland, where the Castle is placed, opens to the east, not far from *Cullen-House*, the present seat of the Earl of *Findlater* and *Seafeld*, and spreads into a wide champaign, opposite to the rising grounds, which swell to the coast, and constitute the demesne of *Findlater Castle*.

The tower of *Deskford* looks over the upper part of the valley, and the garrison of this other fortress could protect and defend the champaign; so that these two seats commanded an extensive territory of very excellent lands, which still constitute part of the estate of the above nobleman.

The sixteenth century was here distinguished by the intimate and powerful union which took place between the influence of arms and the institutions of Christianity. The union of law and religion, in jointly co-operating for the public peace and safety, had been long established in *Caledonia*, under the *Druidical* administrations.

Of this numberless memorials and monuments remain. To these primæval temples the people came, not only on solemn occasions to share the oblations of the altar; but, at stated periods, attended the same sacred fane, to receive the oracles of Equity and Truth, which decided all their contests, adjusted their jarring interests, and settled their several pleas.

On a mount, nearly opposite to the Castle, the remains of one of these very ancient circles of massy stones was, by evangelical appropriation, consecrated to Christian use. The place was formerly called *Desford LAW*, a term frequently bestowed on the place of the *Druidical* court; and is still named *Ine-altare*, the place of an altar, a term equally applicable to both institutions. The sacred buildings were gradually encreased to a kind of monastery. A large metal crucifix was not long since dug from among the ruins.

But, after the building of the castle, the Sanctuary of Christian Sacrifice was transferred to a place adjacent, in order that veneration for the holy rites solemnized there might add religious dignity to the honourable security and peace which the power of the possessors gave them to enjoy in that splendid residence. By an inscription, engraven on stone, in *Saxon* characters, which makes part of a curious sacramental monument of that sanctuary, the building was dedicated to God, by Lord *Alexander Ogilvie*, and Lady *Elizabeth Gordon*, his spouse, anno 1551.

The remains of a grove of well-grown timber, spreading from the Castle down to the banks of the rivulet which waters the valley, still greatly adds to the beauty of the place. Many of these trees are of enormous size, and speak the length of years which they have stood. One majestic ash measures more than twenty feet in circumference, and is called *St. John's Tree*. A well there also preserves the name of that illustrious Evangelist.

Of the wonderful virtues of that holy well, which springs from the rock of the adjacent bank—and the remarkable discoveries of latent truth, made in a retirement among the overshadowing trees—the traditionary annals of the country are full.

These are not altogether visionary; for when, in those solemn shades, the Holy Fathers held high conference with the initiated on the sublime mysteries of Faith, received the full confessions of the candidates, and gave them the water of absolution from the consecrated spring, it would inspire the veneration of the populace, and deepen their awe for these sacred abodes. The influence by these means obtained over their minds, usefully co-operated with the dawning light of the just measures of legislation, for softening the turbulent spirit, and harmonizing all ranks of life to relish the restraints requisite and proper to maintain the order and peace of the community.

In this manner the barons called in the aid of religion and its institutions to extend their legal sway, and found its sanctions guard their authority with more virtual effect than the terror of their arms. This may in part account for the phenomena of the place, “a place of worship, and a castle, so perfectly contiguous, that, as with one influence, they seem to have enhanced the value of the surrounding country.”

FUNERAL MONUMENT in the Church at CULLEN, a Royal Borough of Banffshire.

WHEN engaging in a second volume of this publication, it was judged proper to present a specimen of another kind of monuments than what have hitherto engaged our notice, some of which will be occasionally introduced.

The tombs of *Westminster-Abbey*, and other cemeteries of *England*, have been described with precision, and delineated with elaborate care; and though a solemn, have proved an acceptable entertainment to such as delight in these memorials of their forefathers. These not only inform us of their characters, their merits, and their pious hopes, but shew the progress of taste in design, and various improvements in arts, as expressed by the sculptures of these funeral honours. The tombs of *NORTH BRITAIN* also serve to elucidate the general history of the country, and particularly lend their aid to shew the revolutions of principle which have swayed the concerns of the church and of religion here.

During the Catholic establishments in the fifteenth century, and while evangelical institutions were acting as with primæval influence, besides the sumptuous edifices consecrated to religious purposes at public expence, almost every noble and opulent family built chapels adjacent to their seats, and devoted lands to the officiating ecclesiastics, that they might have easier access to the mysteries, and the more readily share in the solemnities of religion.

One of these, dedicated to *St. Ann*, was built near to *Cullen-House*, the family residence of the Earls of *Findlater* and *Seafield*. The nobleman who last enlarged and more copiously adorned the eastern aisle, or altar end of it, appropriated a place for a family sarcophagus in that sanctuary. In memory of him, and of that pious work, the monument was reared of which a representation is given in the annexed plate.

In early ages of the Christian church it became an object of sacred ambition to be buried under or as near to the Holy Altar as possible. The custom first took its rise from the relics of saints being enshrined in the sanctuaries; and in process of time, the bodies of the canonized were actually deposited there. What once was constituted the high reward of superior sanctity, was aspired after by devout Princes, and Knights of religious orders, and became the distinguished privilege of the great and good.

The present monument, in point of *Gothic* excellence and grandeur of design, is not perhaps inferior to any that *Europe* can boast in a corresponding age. The splendid enrichments that crown the pyramidal columns, in spite of Architecture's Grecian rules, have a very elegant and beautiful effect. The bas-reliefs are well raised and minutely finished. The figures of the entombed, in devotional attitudes, are well rounded and correctly drawn. The sculptures of the central and interior part, according to the ideas of early ages, have most learned and sublime allusion. Two angels, guarding an altar-piece, on which the virtues of the deceased are inscribed*, seem to call the dead, represented by a skeleton laid under the altar, to appear before

* This Latin inscription is in a kind of heroic verse, and Saxon characters, but does not seem now to be perfectly explicit:

corpus alex^r Ogilvie, m^r de Findlater heros
de Sponse Elisabeth Gordon utrumq; cumbat
precedes plurimis vicerunt parricis; ductus
has dicaverunt edes. justus uterq; Plus
migravit et hic jacent. hac die 4^{to} juliz, 1554.

the tribunal of the MOST HIGH, expressed by a hieroglyphic above. "The ANCIENT OF DAYS sat on the clouds of Heaven, and they came near before Him to judgment," was the bold imagery by which an eminent prophet painted out the things that must be hereafter*. The well-known symbol here on the tomb of THIS ONE, upholding the Globe in His Arm, implies the Intellectual Power and Wisdom, which is the origin and support of Creation. The attitude of Benediction, and the Triple Crown, though seemingly of more modern allusion, yet, in EGYPTIAN wisdom, refer to the Three Great Attributes of Deity, and the Supreme pronouncing a Blessing on His Works. The pillars of Heaven, expressed by columns supporting an arch, rest on the cloud, and a circumambient vine. From that arch diverging rays are spread, in which a Dove is descending, and they beam on the Cross that rises over the Globe, the most ancient and venerable symbols of the Universal Benignity of the Uncreated Light of the World, manifesting the Divine Favour to Man. The scale of the plate is necessarily too small for admitting of these symbols being so expressively marked as could have been wished; but it were superfluous to give an enlarged representation of them, as the particulars are so universally known and understood.

King *Robert Bruce* originally instituted a choir of twelve canons here, to sing the *requiem* of his royal consort, who died at an occasional residence, near to where *Cullen-House* now stands. Some similar appointments were long preserved; and still that number of poor are maintained, at the expence of the *Findlater* family; and the ancient *Bede-House* remains yet appropriated for them. The eight figures in the niches along the foot of the tomb, are said by tradition to represent the *Bede-men*†; but, from the number and expression of the figures sculptured there, they rather seem to allude to the eight beatitudes, or evangelical virtues. These being the distinguishing characters of the more exemplary Christians, would be naturally attributed to those of more eminent piety. Such an embellishment of the monument would pay a higher compliment to the entombed, than the memorials of their charity alone could have done; and there is little reason to doubt, but that those who designed it had that tribute of praise to their memory in view.

I cannot finish this article, without mentioning a curious historical anecdote, regarding the noble family of *Findlater*, and which was the occasion of their bearing the name of *Ogilvie*. In an early period of the *Scottish* monarchy, a Chief, of the name of *Gilchrist*, married a sister of his Sovereign, by whom he had three sons; but, after some time, a mutual disgust arising between the parties, *Gilchrist* had reason to suspect that his wife's affections were placed on another object, and one day actually surprized her with a lover; upon which discovery, reflecting alone on the injury done him, and forgetting, for a moment, the high rank of the lady, he savagely put them both to death; but, dreading the King's resentment, he retired, with his three sons, into a forest, where they remained concealed several years. In a progress of the King's through the country, his Majesty one day took the diversion of hunting in that forest, and, having imprudently separated himself from his retinue, he was attacked by some banditti; upon which the *Gilchrists* rushed from their retreat, and having dispersed the robbers, had the good fortune to rescue the King; after which, having thrown themselves at his feet, he commanded them to rise, telling them, at the same time, to ask what they chose, for that he had nothing to refuse them. Emboldened by this promise, they discovered themselves, and sued for pardon; which the King granted, on condition of their changing their name, as, in his wrath, he had sworn, "that there should not live a *Gilchrist* in the land." They assumed the name of *Ogilvie*, from that of the forest, near *Dundee*, and which has been long in the possession of the family of *Douglas*. From one of *Gilchrist*'s sons is lineally descended the Earl of *Findlater*.

* Daniel, chap. VII. ver. 9, &c.

† *Bede*, in Saxon, Prayer.—*Bede-men*, who joined in the celebration of masses for the dead.

ECHINUS

Published in the *Acta botanica* July 1773, 1774 by Peter-Macmillan, engraver N^o 24, James Street, Great Britain

P. Macmillan del.

C. G. G. G. G.

E C H I N U S.

THE profusion of vital array wherewith the *Echini* are clothed, is a subject of much admiration. Every observation which unfolds that silent wonder, wherewith we survey the exquisite designs of nature in the texture of organized bodies, has its importance in the scale of philosophic enquiry. Men, in proportion to their several capacities, their warmth of affection, and strength of understanding, will ever view, with more or less pleasure, the various energies of life wherewith the creation abounds. To persons of much sensibility no part of nature is indifferent. Of animated being, whose use it lies beyond human penetration to descry, when we perceive evident excellence of form, and organs wonderfully adapted to their comfort and preservation in the little sphere of existence which they are called forth from nothing to enjoy, it evinces an attention to their well-being in the all-directing care of Providence, which it would be extreme insensibility in us to overlook.

“Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field,” implies the finest argument, and the noblest inference, that ever were drawn from the contemplation of the wonders of nature.

The strong spines, a, A, wherewith the *Echinus**, B, is furnished, and so thoroughly surrounded, are not so much its instruments of motion, as the apparatus of nature for the defence and protection of a very numerous race of delicate organs, which share its life, and administer to its nourishment.

Language seems yet deficient in power to express their nature, and our knowledge too confined to ascertain their importance. 'Tis a thoroughly active and animated community, which hold their existence by one common tenure.

A thousand of these delicate organs, disposed in triple rows, and of various form, occupying the spaces between the spines, are ever, with unceasing energy of expression, gaping about in the flood, and seemingly grasping at atoms which the human eye cannot discern. That myriad of heads, engaged in supplying means of life to one single animal, is scarcely to be viewed without awe.

Three different species of these can be distinctly ascertained; and magnified representations of them are given at bb, cc, and ddd. Whether these last be all of one kind, their ever-varying appearance scarcely admits of expressing with precision; but their general character is that of a trefoil, which spreads and shuts alternately, and often with rapid movements; and in many the blades are prettily marked with streaks of different colours.

* *Lin. Syst.* 1102. *Br. Zool.* vol. IV. plate xxxvi.

The species b, b, has more resemblance to the head or bill of a bird; and the action of all of them in the water is very like to that of poultry picking food: c, c, are curiously jointed tridents, which turn and bend every way, as occasion requires the bills to be exercised.

The spines a, A, if instruments of motion, are not its only ones; for it seems altogether incapable of moving or turning itself, unless by the aid of a particular kind of tentacula, wherewith it is also furnished, many hundreds in number. They have each of them a sucker at the extremity, as magnified in the specimens e, e, e, with which it lays hold on the rock, and by extending and contracting of these, can suspend or move itself at pleasure. The shell or crustaceous covering of the intestinal part of the animal is full of pores, disposed in ten triple rows, as k, K. Through these perforations the numerous nerves extend, which give energy to the operations of the several orders of the above organs.

The cluster of little polypes, with the large sucker at E, is a specimen of one, of ten peculiar organs, which more immediately surround the mouth. These are enclosed by two other rows of a similar nature, but more slender texture, but seem all engaged and busy, in their several functions, in this wonderful apparatus of life.

Their situation, round the aperture of the mouth, is represented at G.

The very elegant form of the bones of the mouth seemed worthy of a separate delineation, and are represented at H and I.

The figure B, is the natural size of a very small Echinus. They are found on this coast of all dimensions, from that of a pea to that of a pine-apple. The most common size of full-grown ones seems to be from three to four inches diameter. They inhabit the deep pools, and obscure clefts among the rocks, keeping always considerably within and under low-water mark.

To have objects of admiration often placed before our view, is a certain encrease to the enjoyments of life. The cultivating of a taste for the elevated entertainments these afford, enlarges the sphere of human happiness, and ennobles the hours of leisure. For this, the œconomy of nature, in the submarine regions, will open in many instances a yet unexplored scene; and her secret paths of wonder will be pursued with an ardour and solicitude of investigation, which the public attention paid to these observations so justly inspires.

HUNTING-SEAT in GLEN FIODICH*.

OPPOSITE to the demesne of *Auchindown* Castle, and in the midst of a vast tract of forest lands, in this district of highland country belonging to the DUKE OF GORDON, a romantic entrance to the fields of game is constituted by this central glen: It is a deep, winding, narrow valley, stretching up for several miles among the wildest mountains; the frequent groves, and great quantities of natural wood, which spread the declivities by which it is formed, had given the rivulet that waters it the title of the WOODY STREAM†.

There is a native wildness and beauty in the characteristic appellations which distinguish these remote districts, which interests travellers of taste in their derivation. They are not to be overlooked, though taken from a rude and obsolete language: whether of *Coptic* or *Caledonian* extraction, original epithets are equally important to History and Philosophy.

Such as the above are more peculiarly pleasing to those who have a relish for the native beauties of poetic imagery. The SON of FINGAL, who has immortalized the picturesque grandeur of the *Caledonian* wilds in his song, shews how well he knew the emphasis and value of these characters; they realize while they animate description, and make the effect of the paintings of fancy find its way to the heart. HOMER, with no less address than OSSIAN, availed himself of the vast advantage which his descriptions derived from the appropriated epithets of countries and of men.

The sublime genius of Poetry was ever indebted to these for much of her energy and influence: They belong to original Nature—place us as in a primæval world—and must be equally charming in the rudest and most polished periods of society.

“The River of Woods,”—“The Valley of Rocks,”—“The Tree of the Cave of the Hill,”—more forcibly raise the scene in view, than a long and elaborate description.

Let this apology suffice, and arrest the rising smile, for having recourse at times to derivations from a dialect that is so little known.

The woods of this forest abounding with deer, and the hills of heath with game, render it an eligible field of enterprize for sportsmen in the autumnal months; and here the lovers of the chace, of course, frequently assemble.

* The derivation of this name authorizes some alteration in its orthography.

† See Note, *Auchindown* Castle, N^o 12.

A larger spread of level ground than is usual in the other windings of the valley, raised into a bank, pretty high above the level of the rivulet, and sloping with a fine exposure to the mid-day sun—and the romantic beauty of an adjacent glen, that pours its stream into the *Fiodich* there—had determined the situation of the buildings, of which a view is given in the plate.

This hunting-seat, although a “lowly dwelling in the wilderness, and secluded from the world,” yet has ample accommodations, elegant enough; and becomes at times a chosen residence of the FAMILY from GORDON CASTLE. The graceful Tartan, with superior beauty, revisits its native scenes; and the fresh lustre of its folds enlivens the thickets of the hill.

To leave the entertainments of the palace, and the gay scenes of festivity and convivial splendor; and to woo tranquillity in the shades of a vast and various scene of majestic landscape, is a transition in life, to minds of superior sensibility, oft-times the most eligible and pleasing.

Young minds, particularly, receive from the contemplation of the great scenes of Creation a source of the most exalted pleasures; thence fancy becomes stored with images that rouse and expand its powers of combination, and is inspired with a higher relish for that sublime of conception to which descriptive poetry, and the best landscape paintings, owe their principal charm. To see them astonished with the roaring cascade, and indulge the solemn enthusiasm that stupendous rocks, and caverns, and thickets, inspire; and to mark the swell of thought and silent wonder that paint the dawning beauties of the heart that glows with admiration, is one of the most sacred entertainments in which fond parental affection can indulge. In these, sensibilities are seen unfolding, on which every valuable impression may be made, that is requisite to constitute intrinsic excellence of character, or maintain true dignity of mind.

The angels of more elevated speculation delight in retirement: In these, the mind perceives its intellectual glories dawn. An awful and instructive genius, from time immemorial, has hallowed the shade of each sequestered solitary scene.

CASTLE URQUHART.

GLEN URQUHART is a large, romantic, beautiful, winding valley; the bottom is spread with rich arable fields, interspersed with some pasture grounds, and surrounded by lofty hills, finely varied with rocks, and woods, and streams of water: It stretches up for several miles from the north-west side of *Loch-ness*, lying nearly opposite to the high grounds of *Strath-Erick*, and to the *General's Hut*, and *Fall of Fyers*, on the south-east.

The lake here, spreading up into the hollow of the valley, forms a spacious bay; some rising grounds insulated in the bottom of it, and clothed with trees, have a very pleasing effect. On the point of a rocky promontory, which forms the western boundary of the bay, the remains of **CASTLE URQUHART** are placed in a strong situation; for the walls of the principal tower nearly correspond with the face of the perpendicular rock, which is washed with the waves of the lake; and the neck of land is defended by stout bulwarks. The walls of the citadel, and some other towers remain; but more extensive ranges of buildings, which were once barracks for several hundred men, are now totally demolished, and fallen into one indiscriminate ruin. The soil has gathered over them: they are covered with weeds and grass. The vestiges, however, of massy ramparts, ditches, &c. still shew the very considerable extent of ground which the buildings within had occupied.

From many particulars observable in the records that are preserved concerning transactions which relate to *Castle Urquhart*, the principal tower, at least, appears to have been built in a very early age, to which, in all probability, our histories do not extend. In proportion to the progress of the science of arms and of defence, and the number of inhabitants who occupied the country, the buildings of the fortresses were gradually strengthened and enlarged by those *Caledonian* chieftains who held the superiority and possession of the adjacent lands. By supporting an establishment of military vassals, and keeping a numerous garrison in the castle, they maintained despotic authority over a very extensive territory there; and as late as the beginning of the fourteenth century, held it as a principality independent of the crown. They opposed the edicts and refused tribute to **EDWARD I. of England**; so that it became an object of some moment in the eye of Government to reduce the fortresses, and a large body of forces were drawn north for that purpose; the castle was accordingly regularly besieged, and after an obstinate resistance taken, anno 1303*. *Castle Urquhart* was then constituted a royal fort; and the barony of which

* *Abercrombie's Martial Achievements.*

it held the possession and command, seems to have been annexed by the Crown to the appointment of Governor of the castle. It was, however, resumed on other terms; succeeding governors shook off the allegiance; the kings of *Scotland* preserved their sovereignty; and the chieftains emulated their prince. The property and power of the whole barony was, in 1359, vested in the Earl of *Sutherland* by *David II.* and in the end of that century was in the possession of the Earl of *Huntly*.

Its value, as a purchase, being liquidated in the reign of *James VI.* by a more settled tenure, it became the hereditary property of the CASTLE GRANT FAMILY.

The enclosures, which are forming boundaries to the arable lands and pasture grounds of *Glen-Urqubart*, and the extensive plantations which are carrying on along the declivities of the mountains by Sir *James Grant*, point out to the traveller that it must be still considered as a valuable estate, where expence and taste can both be employed to advantage.

In the thirteenth century, when the Evangelical establishments were spreading into every cultivated province, "a chapel was dedicated to the Holy Virgin, near the banks of *Loch-nefs*, among some of the pleasant fields of *Glen-Urqubart*: Those who ministered at the altar, or were sent from thence into the wilds, to instruct the ignorant in the doctrine of the Cross, had lands devoted to them, which they cultivated with skill, and made capable of large produce."

The present kirk and glebe are the remains of these; and by means of which the consolations of the same religion, though under a different form, are still administered; and many who dwell in the remoter parts of the mountains come from far to receive them. It had often been an idle observation, made with some irony in *Scotland*, "That wherever a parsonage was established, there we might be sure to find some of the most luxurious fields of the country." Therefore Dr. JOHNSON sagely remarked, "That if the Ministers of Religion had it in their power to chuse the situation of their dwellings, it would have been abundantly simple not to have fixed their residence amid the richest lands and most pleasing landscape."

SACRAMENTAL MONUMENT,

In the Church of DESKFORD, *Banffshire*.

THE fathers and guardians of the mysteries of the church of *Rome* not only avowedly admitted into the sanctuary the symbols of the *Gentile* religion, but triumph in their sacred application, as evidently having propheticall allusion to the EVANGELICAL REVELATION.

They beheld, in the sublime hieroglyphics of *Egypt*, which had aggrandised the *Delphic* oracle, and the temple of *Eleusis*, some wonderful references to the manifestation of the WORD OF GOD, contained in the GOSPEL OF JESUS; and therefore, with what they esteemed a hallowed appropriation, adopted into the institutions of Christianity several of those mystic symbols, which involved the communications of the primeval shrines.

The memorials of some circumstances of the highest antiquity come therefore under our notice, from the inspection of such monuments as that represented in the annexed engraving. In any other view, these carvings might not be deemed to have singularity or importance enough to merit a place in this collection. The knowledge of the high origin from whence the structure and sculptures of these monuments are derived, is the source of great part of the pleasure of meeting them on consecrated ground.

The chapel of *Desford* had been additionally embellished and endowed in the middle of the sixteenth century, when the Catholic institutions were in high estimation; and the monument now under consideration was then erected in the chancel. This appears from the inscription, which celebrates it in rather peculiar terms, as "DONE FOR THE HONOUR OF LOVING OF GOD." 1551. And it bears on the supporting columns the arms and initials of the *Lord and Lady Finlater*, whose tomb was described in the preceding number. The earliest enrichments of several of the adjacent churches were made at the instance of that noble family.

The cubical apartment in the wall of the chancel, with a recess on either hand within, is one circumstance which the church borrowed from some of the most ancient sanctuaries.

The sacred cube, or KAABA, within which the highest mysteries lay concealed, occupied the innermost recesses of the eastern temples. These ADYTA were impervious, and their contents a secret, often even to those who had seen within the veil. It was the abode of celestial truth; the hallowed cell where the oracles lay enshrined; the tomb where the body of divine laws and ordinances were reposed; and where the heavenly *palladium* was preserved inviolate.

The too faithful copyists of the church of *ROME*, either with the flattering view of accommodating the Christian mysteries to the prepossessions of the *Gentile* world; or, from the vain idea of adding higher grandeur to the sacred rites, of which they were the ministers, adopted the KAABA, or ADYTA, of the sanctuaries, as the most venerable shrine wherein the eucharistical elements could be reposed; and there the *Pax* or *Ciborium*, which contained the Host, was laid.

Of this appropriation of the cell, in the case before us, hallowed as the repository, or ADYTUM, of the symbols of the WORD OF GOD, the inscription, "I AM THE
" BREAD

“BREAD OF LIFE, which came down from Heaven,” leaves us no room to doubt; while the hieroglyphical import of the TRUE VINE gives evangelical dignity and importance to the clusters and foliage which are spread around.

The EXPOSITORIUM in the hand of angels, which is so distinctly carved above, will further serve to elucidate these positions, and shews some of those surprising relations, which induced the first pastors to blend the ancient symbols with evangelic truths.

The *Expositorium* is the most sacred of the Catholic shrines, wherein, on high festivals, the consecrated wafer, stamped with the figure of our Saviour on the cross, is presented with the greatest solemnity on the altar. The chasing on this is remarkable; the principal articles are therefore represented a little enlarged, as in the area of the cubic cell, the holy place beneath.

The figures weeping or praying by the cross of JESUS require no comment; but the CROSS is inscribed on an orb, which the ancients say represented the full moon of the paschal solemnity: and we see the new moon of the Gentile rites put under it. The cross is suspended by a chain of three circles, included in the mystic triangle.

By the *Pythagorean* translation of the symbols of EGYPT, the equilateral triangle was the hieroglyphic of the perfect union of power, wisdom, and goodness, in the Divine nature. The circle was a symbol originally taken from the sun, as the noblest image of the universal influence and benignity of the Deity; but three united circles involved the additional illustration of that GOLDEN CHAIN, that ORDER of Providence, which upholds all being, connects all systems, and sustains all worlds.

A celebrated *Egyptian*, at least one of the earliest of *Arabian* authors*, says, “the CHAIN implies the relation that subsists between the intellectual and the visible world:” and the profound *Algazel* †, “that he who can discern the mysteries of the CHAIN, which connects the things that are in heaven with those that are on earth, is versed in the deep secrets of the most wonderful knowledge.” The *Chain*, therefore, here annexing the CROSS to the most sacred symbol of the DEITY, has been conceived as the most expressive hieroglyphic of the “RECONCILIATION OF GOD TO MAN.”—This Chain is somewhat differently represented in the symbolical vignette of the title-page, taken from some very ancient Abraxas.

The winged attendants of the sanctuary, which support the shrine of the Hypostasis, inscribed with these sublime symbols, allude to the mysteries revealed by the ministry of angels, and seem here benignly presenting the cup of high consolation, which that revelation imparts to mankind.

The very idea of these celestial beings is comfortable and pleasant; an inspiration to hope, worthy of gracing the altar: but the observation is no less just, that the cherubim mentioned by MOSES as the primæval guardians of the tree of life—those that in the temple of Jerusalem overshadowed the ark, where the heavenly manna, and tables of the divine law, were placed—those who attended at our Saviour’s tomb, and announced his revival there—might all be variously alluded to by the figures of cherubim and angels (sculptured on this and similar monuments) which embellish the place of the tabernacle, where the Bread of Life was preserved, whose divine eulogium is sublimely expressed by the inscription underneath, taken from ST. JOHN ‡.

* Abenephilus.

† Kircher, *Obelisk Pamphile*, lib. v. p. 450.

‡ Ch. vi. ver. 51.

TUBB, LARLA and CORALIS

Peter Maxell sculp.

C. Cordiner pinn.

TUBULARIA and CORALS.

IT is remarkable, that the ANIMAL FLOWER, and species of CORAL, represented in this plate, did not fall under the inspection of the late eminent and justly celebrated Natural Historian Mr. ELLIS, to whom we owe so much of what has been discovered of the life that pervades the coral regions of the sea. His assiduity and perseverance for years in collecting marine productions, by all possible means, and from every quarter; and his so particular attention to them, in order to enrich that store of information which his microscopical observations afford; renders any that escaped his notice highly worthy of investigation. Indeed, the submarine regions are in many respects inaccessible, and the more happy discoveries of its rare productions are fully as much to be attributed to chance, and fortunate casts, as to the assiduity and address wherewith the researches of natural history can be prosecuted by dredging. But when a stone of any considerable size is raised up from a depth of twenty or thirty fathom, and preserved with care in a vessel of sea-water, it presents one of the finest spectacles in the world, and on which microscopical attention can be bestowed with endless entertainment. Among the beautiful assemblages of corals and corallines, shells, serpulæ, and zoophytes, which clothe and adorn these pieces of rock, where infinite varieties of life are so complexly blended, one is at a loss on which to fix as most wonderful, when the whole scene is so interesting and uncommon!—Some particulars it occasionally is the province of these pages to narrate.

The animals of the long serpentine tubes of the plate, which are drawn fully the size of life, in a great measure correspond with the characteristics of the *Actinia*; but the horny elastic pipes which Nature forms for its residence, rank it among the *Tubularia*: These tubes are sometimes found a foot or two in length, without any considerable increase of diameter, and are generally encrusted round, or richly adorned with coralline substances. The polype has a mouth or sucker in the centre, and the waving *tentacula* which surround it give this living flower something the appearance of a tulip. These long, active, spreading fibres are tender and delicate in extreme, semi-transparent, and glow with beautiful dyes of purple, green, and gold, spreading in concentric circles from the stem. Their amazing fineness is evinced when they retreat at times into so small a tube, so as no vestige of the flower can be seen; and soon, with equal dexterity, the whole system of *tentacula* is darted forth, and spread uninjured in the element again.

The species of coral clustering on these tubes at a and b, and a little magnified at c, is prickly, hard, and brittle, varying in colour from a pure white to a dull yellow.

yellow, and some specimens have a crimson tinge. Part of a branch is highly magnified at A, where the openings into the cells appear in their rows, under the protection of bending spicula: in the more highly magnified part B, is shewn the cavities of the spines, which open towards the mouth of the cells; and the sprightly flower, their beautiful inhabitant and fabricator, spreads forth, as seen in living specimens. But no delineation can give an idea of the spirit and sensibility which they express, and ever-varying forms which their activity makes them assume.

Possessed of capacities that indicate so much ingenuity and discernment, it is scarce possible to contemplate their energies without wonder! That admirable address, which strikes us with equal delight and surprise, can scarcely fail to be pleasing to themselves: they must feel the joy of enterprise while they drink in health and nourishment, and, in their researches among the virtues of the all-prolific element of water, find materials for building their alabaster palace, and ingredients to point the palisadoes of pearl which defend their own dwellings, and equally provide for the safety of their infant offspring, and heirs of all their talents.—Instinct is the most marvellous attribute of being. To act with intelligence, and not to know—to be governed by principles of the highest wisdom, and incapable of discerning them—to be extremely artful and prudent, yet unconscious of the reason by which these useful qualities are exerted and attained—is the wonderful predicament of all animated being inferior to man, eminently disclosed in the properties of these beauteous blossoms, these industrious plants, that, acting with intuitive spirit and inherent life, adorn the bottom of the deep with charming gardens, where the perennial productions need not the influence of summer suns to unfold them, nor from the severities of winter do they wither or decay.

P. Magell. sculp.

C. Cordner. lith.

CASTLE of BOHARM.

IN the reign of DAVID I, when that fortress had been built of which the ruins are now before us, circumstances relating to ecclesiastical establishments begin to become more particularly interesting in the annals of NORTH BRITAIN: and it is not easy to separate the history of the administration of the Nobles, in those territories over which they bore sway, from those religious appointments, with which their views of comfort and happiness appear to be so continually actuated.

Although between the above period and the reign of ALEXANDER II, or beginning of the thirteenth century, there were many periods in which the regulations of government preserved a tolerable share of peace and tranquillity, which gave scope for the evangelical institutions to rise in estimation, and spread with success, so as to become generally established, and with a considerable degree of splendor; yet society was still in so unsettled a state, and the appeal to strength in arms was so frequent among the Nobles, in adjusting their feuds, that all their seats and residences, built in that age, are constructed as species of fortresses or strong holds, in which they might be protected in safety against all assailants. The enormous masses of the remaining walls; the stairs of secret communications, and chambers concealed in the body of these walls; the narrowness of the windows, and small adjoining apertures, thro' which they might wound and annoy any that should approach in hostile manner—are such strong expressions of apprehension, and distrust in the security of their quiet, as scarce are to be beheld but with uneasiness and awe: but which, at the same time, inspire the comfortable reflection of the more peaceful and happy condition of the present state of society.

The remains of BOHARM CASTLE, including the DOMESTIC CHAPEL and other buildings adjacent, are spread over the ground in one so indiscriminate ruin, that scarce from among the massy vestiges can the form and extent of the court be traced. It extends near a hundred and twenty feet in front, along the brow of a circular hill, which descends to the south by a steep declivity, into a finely-wooded, deep, romantic glen, through whose shades the brook of *Alderney* winds, in wild murmurs, through rocks and precipices that break and interrupt its course. This stream, in a little way after its confluence with the *Fiodich*, waters some charming valleys, and then falls into the *SPEY*, that noble river, which sees a vast tract of well-cultivated country embellish its banks. Here, opposite to the fine plains of ROTHIES, the parish of *Boharm* surrounds the lofty hill of *Ben-i-gene*.

The demesne of the castle, as may readily be believed, is not the least luxuriant of the arable lands. These, with a vast tract of surrounding country, as far back as annals reach, were the property of the very antient and noble family of the MORAVIENSES, who held the rich territories of *Duffus*, *Rose-Isle*, *Kintrae*, *Inskele*, &c. in *Moray*, in the reign of King DAVID I; which lands were confirmed to WILLIAM de MORAVIA, son to the famous FRESKINUS dominus de DUFFUS, &c. * by King WILLIAM, anno 1169.—Vide *Chat. Morav.*

WILLIELMUS, filius WILLIELMI FRESKYNI, stiled DOMINUS de PETTIE, BRACH-LIE, & BOHARM, by a deed yet extant, granted to the see of *Moray* “the church

* See REMARKABLE RUINS, No. 2, *Castle Duffus*.

“lands of the parish of *Artendol*, with all their appendages, except the tithes of the corn, and two davoch of land, which are adjoining to my castle of BUCHARM, viz. *Bucharm* and *Atbelnathorch*; which tithes, by the authority of BRICIUS, Bishop of *Moray*, were assigned for the maintenance of the clergy who officiate in the chapel of my castle of *Bucharm*,” &c.—*Chart. Morav.*

This Nobleman, either out of policy, to conciliate the Bishop of *Moray* to favour some of his ambitious views, or out of the genuine piety and spirit of the times, made large concessions to the church; and by his assignments encreased the diocese. He assigned, by a written deed yet extant, the church-lands of the parish of *Artendol* (which had been otherwise appropriated), to the SEE of MORAY, with the following clause, which more particularly belongs to the subject: “Excepting the lands of *Atbelnathorch*, and other plots of ground in *Galivat*, which were dedicated of old, by BRICIUS, for the maintenance of the clergy which officiate in the Domestic CHAPEL, which stands nigh to my castle of BUCHARM.”—Some monumental stones, lying among the ruins, would seem to imply, that the chapel had a burying-ground adjoining to it.

Although only the traces of ancient magnificence remain, among these long-deserted ruins, one feels respect for the spot where eminent characters have lived; shares the solemn influence of the consecrated ground, where evangelical solemnities hallowed the altar; and, unrepined, may drop an unavailing tear over the remains of early piety sinking into oblivion. Here, on the one hand, are the spacious HALLS, where the CHIEFS of the land prolonged “the Feast of Joy,” or held the consultations that administered equity and established peace. There, the SANCTUARY, where they bowed with devotion, and looked forward to the opening of superior scenes. The one, in forlorn greatness, with aged trees in hoary wildness sprung from the mouldering walls, is become the habitation where the inauspicious Raven rears her young; the other is resolved into a dreary cell, where the plaintive Owl maintains her sequestered solemnity and undisturbed abode.

Some conscious pride delights us, in recalling ages that are past, and restoring them into a comparative view with the present scene. Some mournful pleasure prompts the involuntary sigh, over memorials of grandeur that is passed away, and scenes of existence that can no more return. The fleeting nature of the earth’s transitory blessings pervades reflection with a serious awe: we are unavoidably included in the tale of woe! prematurely involved in an evening shade, fallen from the impending arches of these decaying towers, that soon themselves will be completely buried in the dust.

These deep shadows, the dampness of these vaults, chill the fire of the mind. Quit then the ruin’s lonely gloom, and the tombs of the ancients, to enjoy again the pure light of day. Beyond them more enlivening influences prevail, and better prospects rise. A charming landscape is spread in view. The sun shines bright in the gardens. The trees are loaded with fruits. The river in the valleys sparkles to the beam of noon. Green fields, and woods, and flocks, and rising corn—the song of birds, and beauty of the day—inspire with calm content and present joy. The pleasure of contemplating with gratitude the surrounding world is restored. We rejoice in the light, that heavenly medium, which animates and harmonizes the whole.

CASCADE of GLEN-CORRYMOULZIE.

THE DEE is a river so celebrated in song, on account of the romantic beauties of the rich vallies through which it runs—and of so much note and consequence in commercial views to the country—that to natives it must seem a superfluous labour to describe its course; and to others, perhaps, an uninteresting care, minutely to specify the most eligible paths by which one can penetrate into the vast solitudes that are found among the Mountains of *ATHOL* and *MAR*, where it has its source.

Rising in one of the loftiest, perhaps highest, mountains of *SCOTLAND*, almost equidistant from the *Eastern* and *Western* shores, by the confluence of many waters, which it meets with in a course of seventy or eighty miles, the *DEE* forms at length a large and important river: where it opens its passage to the sea, it has given rise to one of the most spacious and noble ports, and to one of the most flourishing and populous towns of *North Britain*. This, the two universities, which have long been distinguished seminaries of knowledge and erudition, where taste has been cultivated with enlightened ardour, and philosophy inspired with eminent zeal—no less than the extensive branches of commerce promoted in the place, and vast establishments consulted for carrying on manufactures and advancing arts—have rendered sufficiently known.

Many experience the animation circulated by the commercial advantages, for which the confluence of this river with the ocean opens a channel. These are interesting to every sphere, of easy access, and obvious to all. But few have drank of the fountain from whence it originally streams.

The source of this fine river, like the elementary springs from whence all our most valuable blessings are derived, lies hid in almost inaccessible regions. It falls not to the lot of many to arrive at the first principles of things, or trace the deep recondite windings that lead to the discovery of the primordial scene.

Few will encounter the toil of penetrating into the desert, in order to drink from the fountain-head of the well of the *DEE*. To struggle over many a rugged hill, and through the desolate paths of rocky vallies—to spend the day amidst the stupendous cliffs of these wonderful solitudes—will in general be deemed a price too high for the refreshing draught: yet is it a mighty and a sublime scene, where first these torrents whiten the cliffs, which afterwards constitute the waters of the *DEE*.

From the head of *Gariochy* above, *Glengusachen*, the bold front of the very high and rugged mountain of *Carndeul*, is by steep paths to be ascended; on gaining the apparent summit, a vast amphitheatre of rock presents itself to view, in the midst of which the still waters of a deep lake occupy a circular vale, and reflect the prodigious precipices projecting from the cavity of the surrounding hill.

This is the grand reservoir from whence issue the first body of the waters of the *DEE*.—The well and spring is the first and highest of those crystal torrents which accumulate below. Some beautiful streaks of verdure stretch down in waving lines to the margin of the lake. They consist of various moss, refreshed and fed by springs, trickling from the high parts of the mountain, which intercept the clouds, and arrest their waters ere they fall in rain.—From the pinnacle of the mountain that rises over the well of the *DEE*, there is the most magnificent view of the surrounding world imaginable. Although seventy or eighty miles inland, yet, such is the distinctness of

vision obtained in these high regions of the air, that the bright sand of the sea-shore on the coast of MORAY is discernible : and the ocean, all the way from the GIRDLENESS*, to the ORD of CAITHNESS, a sweep of a hundred miles, is visible, except where remote intervening mountains, like vast bluish waves, break the encircling line of the horizon, which at either end is lost in the interminable azure, wherewith the heaven and earth are blended.

On leaving the elevated station where that immense prospect is attained, one must descend through many miles of a toilsome labyrinth, of rugged paths, over precipices, and among rocks, to avoid the morasses and swamps of waters stagnating on the gentler declivities of the mountain—and, after struggling down to the bottom of the cliffs of “*The Valley of Deer*,” ’tis long ere the dreary paths lead to the level banks of the DEE. The first object that restores one to any amusement, in reflecting on the common enjoyments of life, is the sequestered habitation (on a plot of grass that spreads along the sides of a brook) which Lord FIFE has built for a temporary accommodation when benighted in these vast solitudes of the forest, and from its situation has denominated DEE COT ; and is persuaded, whoever drinks of the first spring of the river, will rejoice in re-visiting that dwelling—will prize its stores above the richest banquet that indolence enjoys ; and then esteem the hours of repose more precious than the celebrated slumbers of noon on the sofas of Eastern luxury.—Perhaps neither the perseverance of SOLANDER, nor the zeal of Sir JOSEPH BANKS, ever surmounted greater difficulties and fatigue, in the search of plants on unknown mountains, than are to be overcome on the above emergency.

An easier access and more pleasant path invites to the Hermitage, where the torrent, rushing down the cliffs, constitutes the characteristic beauty of the scene represented in the plate. That Glen penetrates deep among precipices, which lie under the brow of a most majestic rocky mountain, among whose cliffs the pines and poplars are waving high in air. A noble bridge, of elegant structure, near two hundred feet in length, is lately built across the DEE, opposite to MAR LODGE. The Earl of FIFE, no doubt, intended it for more important purposes ; but it gives a charming opening into the shaded avenues that lead into the windings of the glen. As one enters, a lofty range of cliffs, with aged trees in wildest irregularity hanging over their various shelves, arrests attention by the solemn silence of their shades, and by seeming completely to shut up the glen : but one hears the roar of the torrent incessantly pouring its waters into the echoing depths beyond ; and a path beset with flowers, and flowering shrubs, effected round the foot of the rock, leads, as through fairy lands, to a narrow opening between the cliffs, through which, in most romantic grandeur, and amidst the most picturesque and beautiful scenery, the Cascade is disclosed, pouring from an amazing height, and, breaking on the precipice, falls into the gloom of a deep-worn hollow beneath the Hermitage, whence it rages in wild murmurs away to the DEE : but leaves in air, and perpetuated, that solemn sound, which in so deep a solitude seems congenial to the scene ; inspires that serious tranquillity, for ever so dear to the musing mind ; and gives it to expatiate in the reveries of those angel dreams, which seem to restore the days of primæval peace, when mankind drew their native and sublime enjoyments from the contemplation of the grandeur and beauty of creation.

P. Macgill. Sculp.

C. L. Dyer. pen.

Peter Maxwell sculp

PENTACTYLOSASTER OCVLATVS.

C. Cordner pinx.

PENTADACTYLOSASTER OCULATUS.*

IT has always been in view, that this department of the work should be considered as supplemental to the BRITISH ZOOLOGY, as far as it extends to marine animals: not so much in bringing unknown subjects into view, as by giving a more minute detail of the several energies of those living creatures of the ocean, the peculiarities of whose structure has been least attended to. The inducement to this is, the frequent opportunity of surveying them in their more animated and healthy estate; and of taking drawings from the life, while they enjoy their native element, undisturbed and free.

Drawings made from those animals, such as the softer Stars, when dried (however carefully preserved in the cabinets of the curious) must ever be deficient in expressing the organs of life; because, as soon as they cease to be exerted, they in a great measure lose both their native form and beauty.

The truth of this remark appears to be peculiarly evinced, and in a right striking manner, with regard to the species of STAR represented in the plate, fig. A. For some of the first naturalists, *Swammerdam*, *Borlase*, and *Hill*, take no notice of the legion of vital organs, wherewith this animal is covered over; nor does it appear that any other has ever regarded them as active powers.

A circumstance, which suggested an idea, that these Stars possessed some mode of existence, that had not been described, was, that they are often dredged up from the Coral regions of the deep, and no kind of coralline is ever found adhering to them; yet the backs, and even the claws, of the most active crabs that inhabit those parts, as the *Tetradon*, are generally thick set with various corallines. It was probable, that this so uniform preservation was owing to some provision of nature for the safety of the Stars: and the delineation here given, of their wonderful cloathing, certainly serves to shew, that the above conclusion was not formed in vain.

Nothing but their whole frames being replete with various life, which instinctively destroys the infant seeds of the armies of corallines among which they dwell, could have preserved them from being planted on by these active and industrious artificers.

This species of Star (from many individuals of which, and by a very elaborate process, drawings were made, with all the assistance that aquatic microscopes could give) varies in colour, from a light crimson to a very deep purple; and in size, from the smallest atom discernible, to one about half the dimensions of the drawing. They are also often found larger than that of the plate: but these would seem to be in old age, and the decline of life: their living raiment discloses less beauty and energy. This may be the cause of the large ones being found on the coast, when they have fled from the coral regions where they would have been destroyed. In this state they sometimes occupy the deep pools near to low-water mark—but never, if at all well, allow themselves to be left dry by the tide of ebb; for this precaution seems essentially necessary to their preservation, as all those beautiful organs, that minister to their existence, lan-

* Br. Zool. vol. iv. p. 52.

guish and fade soon as the sun-beams strike, or the breezes blow upon them.—Those from which the drawings are made, were in full health and vigour, dredged up among corals, in about thirty fathom water.

This STAR, by Mr. PENNANT and by LINCKIUS, is distinguished by the epithet *Oculatus*, and at first sight appears well entitled to the appellation: for the more remarkable of these members, wherewith it is feathered over, have much the appearance of a multitude of eyes, as in the ray b: but when highly magnified, and examined with care, as in the specimen given at B. they are found to be organs of life, most delicately formed, contrived for inhaling nourishment, or some vital principles, from the tide, and vary their appearance according to the several parts of the action wherein they are engaged.

The likeness of eyes proceeds from the lustre of semi-transparent films, which are protruded at pleasure from cavities in the body of the Star; and the black speck in the centre of each is owing to the deep opening of the aperture within. These more delicate organs are enclosed or guarded by rows of tubular suckers, of a firmer or gristly nature, which, when the animal is dried, seem only as so many scales.

The others, that issue from beneath the rays, at c. c. c. as is generally known, are properly the instruments of motion, and with which it can so tenaciously adhere to the rocks, as not only to glide equally secure and firm along the under part of the shelves, but cannot without violence be disengaged from them.

The vesture of polypes, occupied by this Star, do not uniformly, and but very seldom, act in a body: any great alarm may cause the whole to shrink; but at times each seems to feel for itself alone, and, when apprehensive of danger, withdraws; the others not sympathizing with that movement, but continue stretched forth until severally intimidated. It is certainly, however, probable that the animal, as a whole, must share in all those separate sensations; and affords a curious subject, were we to indulge reflection on the peculiar nature of its enjoyments.

It certainly, in the truest sense of the phrase, is feelingly alive all over; and the organs wherewith it is covered have various modifications, and doubtless have different offices, which they perform in support of the general system. The several sensations of touch and taste, which the connecting principle must participate in from their ministry, will be ever diversifying the instinctive pleasures derived from acquiring sustenance; and, inhaling the salutary juices of the sea, by so complex an organization, be the means of its receiving a perpetual species of animation, imbibed at every pore. So that, although destitute of all the more extensive and entertaining senses, they may be far from void of amusement, but have a continual interest in the contents of the element around them; and, having their sensibilities awakened by numberless circumstances, preserve an intimate connexion with the environs of their own little sphere, and taste the comfort of the incessant application of their several powers to preserve their destined existence there.

The consultations of nature, for the preservation of her innumerable offspring, are wonderful, and devoutly to be admired!

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

On the OBELISKS of NORTH BRITAIN,
on which are ÆGYPTIAN SYMBOLS.

IT was not until after the maturest deliberation, and frequent canvassing of the subjects with men of knowledge and learning, that it was resolved on to attempt the description of those CALEDONIAN MONUMENTS, which involve mysterious allusions in their sculptures: because, in order to develope the hidden meaning of these abstruse symbols, it is requisite to go deep into the labyrinth of hieroglyphical record; the intricate windings of which, perhaps, 'tis only those of singular taste and penetration, and who have much leisure time at command, that have either ambition or perseverance to unravel.

Mr. GORDON *, taking under consideration Bishop NICHOLSON's reflections ‡ on BOETIUS, for maintaining that the sculptures on the monuments now under consideration were, as he calls them, "Relicks of the Ægyptian manner of expressing themselves," justly remarks, "That although this is no positive evidence that the Caledonians came originally from ÆGYPT; yet this hieroglyphical way of representing facts is uncontrovertedly like the ÆGYPTIAN manner of transmitting memorable things to posterity. And, as I have had the honour of presenting these things first to the view of the world, am not without hopes, but that some future critic in antiquity, from the very symbols and hieroglyphics here exhibited, may discover still stronger circumstances, to evince them vouchers of historical truth."

From these remarks it is evident, that a strange affinity had been early discerned, by our most intelligent historians, between some of the sculptures on these obelisks and Ægyptian symbols: but that they could assign no probable origin for this so unaccountable resemblance.

One evident channel of communication, whereby Eastern symbols came to be inscribed on *Caledonian* monuments, has been repeatedly

* Itinerarium Septentrionale, p. 159, 160.

‡ Scotch Hist. Library.

authenticated by these memoirs; more particularly, the illustration of the hieroglyphics of the sacramental trophies of the former Number has paved the way for the following reflection, to ascertain the traditionary line in which these symbols were conveyed.

THE FIRST CHRISTIAN PASTORS, struck with the hieroglyphical glory, in which divine things had been so sublimely expressed and venerated of old, saw that the symbols of the Gentile religion were derived from primæval traditions; had their sacred origin in the patriarchal records and prophetic books; and therefore involved allusions to evangelical truth. By pious appropriation they were, on the above account, inscribed on the parchments of the Christian sanctuaries; (for, during the three first centuries, the communion service was not permitted to be written): from these parchments, wherewith the divines who carried the embassy of the Gospel into foreign lands were furnished, sprung some of the most inexplicable sculptures on the obelisks now under review.

Memorials of the original parchments shall be here produced; and the monuments of the plate are standing entire*; the faithful comparison of the hieroglyphics on them, with those of Ægyptian obelisks, is therefore what the inquisitive may easily ascertain.

The evidence of the sublime allusions, here offered to view, is not therefore derived from the legendary tales of early historians, nor from dubious theories founded in fiction and favoured by credulity; but from the authentic testimony of sculptured granite and marble, and the venerable importance of primæval symbols.

It is therefore a pleasing reflection, that so many of these OBELISKS held sacred by their antiquity, and the traditionary value of their contents, have so long remained the boast and glory of the CALEDONIAN plains.

* Fig. I. is at *Aberlemny*, in *ANGUS*. III. is within a park, near to *Glaims Castle*, in the same county. II. stands on a circular mount, artificially raised with steps of earth, at *Cariblair* in *Ross-shire*.

ÆGYPTIAN HIEROGLYPHICS,

OBSERVABLE ON

CALEDONIAN OBELISKS.

IN order to give a satisfactory illustration of these, it is not so necessary to go deep into the history of the revolutions, which hieroglyphical writing underwent, as to quote some select sentences of the more distinguished authors who have wrote on this subject: but these are requisite to authenticate the application, and vindicate the sacred references here stated.

No emblem of ancient wisdom has been more remarkable than the hieroglyphic of the Serpent. In different ages it has had affixed to it the most glorious and most horrible ideas. Its plain, explicit, and seemingly earliest reference, is all that is here attended to: and of its universal application in this way all antiquity is full; that when placed over, or in the midst of abstruse symbols, it invariably indicated that they were SPIRIT and LIFE, or bore allusion to objects of a divine and intellectual nature*.

The mystic lines, immediately under that of the Obelisk, fig. I. in the plate, are therefore to be construed as some expressive rudiments of sacred science; but moreover they so perfectly accord with the description given by an eminent antiquarian †, of a corresponding symbol on the *Pamphilian* Obelisk at ROME, that it could not have been more applicable if taken from this at *Aberlemny* ‡. “Tres circuli, intra duo sceptrā inclusi. Triformis numenis dominium, in triplicum mundum pulchre sane demonstrant.”

“The circles, then, included within the Triune line, finished at either end with the sceptral emblem, or ensign of EFFICIENT POWER, was the expressive symbol of the DIVINE DOMINION extended over heaven and earth, and the whole CIRCLE of the year ||.” While the sacred EYE, within the triangle, gives the thought a sublimity, which it is impossible to heighten.

We have here then, on a CALEDONIAN monument, one of the most original and sacred symbols of the EASTERN WORLD; in the mystic lines of which, those that are thoroughly versed in antiquity can be at no loss to discern the rudiments of the Alpha and Omega, and other letters of the primæval alphabet, as in the extracted NOAΩ!

The CHERUBIC FIGURES over the traverse of the CROSS, on the Obelisk, fig. III. no less forcibly attract attention, on account of the resemblance which they bear to several Ægyptian hieroglyphics.

That with wings, which in its original may have resembled the ABRAXA, fig. IV. is the only one additionally selected as the present subject of observation: and the

* *Physici vero Serpentem spiritualissimum animal esse dicunt; itaque res divinas, per Serpentis naturam, notabant.* Eusebius, *Prep. Evang.* l. iii. c. 3.

† Kircher. *Obelisk. Pamphil.* 148.

‡ Ibid. 497.

|| St. James's Liturgy.

decyphering of that alone, its origin and import, if the limits of this paper allowed, would readily open a spacious, and perhaps interesting field of investigation.

SANCHONIATHON is the earliest of uninspired writers who mentions this symbol. And the great CUDWORTH* allows, that the bold imagery, and enigmatical import of the fragments quoted by EUSEBIUS†, as they require to be judiciously weighed, so merit a candid and philosophical acceptance.

Reason therefore is allowed a liberal scope in the translation of the cited apophthegms.

The SUN is the great measure of the year—of TIME. *Sancho niathon* calls its symbol *Chronus*. “To which,” says he, “there is given four wings; two expanded as in the act of flight, and two let down to indicate repose; implying, that though stationary, it seems to fly; and though apparently revolving round the world, is perfectly still.”

But a resembling symbol was portrayed, giving an abstract idea of the human mind. To this some of the ORACLES attributed to ZOROASTER, on the intellectual nature of Man, evidently allude, viz. “The HUMAN SPIRIT is in this state as if “endowed with WINGS: when the wings of the mind are let down, it drops “into the terrestrial sphere, and is conversant with temporal things; when they “are spread forth, it re-ascends to HEAVEN, and contemplates the DEITY.”

“Besides the four already mentioned, there were added,” says *Sancho niathon*, “to this symbol two other WINGS, affixed to the head, to indicate the intellectual “discernment, and heavenly aspirations of the soul ‡!”

This six winged figure, as the hieroglyphic of the Mind in its most perfect and happy state, became the chosen symbol of the doxology in holy rites. ’Twas the SERAPH of the Sanctuary, as seen by *Isaiab* ||. The grand Hallelujah was expressed by these, and they are therefore so introduced into *the Ancient Liturgy of the Church of JERUSALEM*:—“The Sun, the Moon, and the whole choir of Stars, “praise THEE, and the SERAPHIM with six wings, while with twain they cover “their head, and with twain they cover their feet, and with twain they do fly §.”

When therefore, over the Cross, on one obelisk, we see the sacred Dove, the Chalice, and Eucharistical Wafer ¶; on another, human figures in attitudes of lowliest adoration; on a third, the SERAPHIM—no doubt can remain of their religious import, and sublime design, as public monuments of those interesting and divine communications, which accompanied the dawning light of the evangelical doctrines. The sacred sculptures of these OBELISKS, therefore, as far as possible favoured the spreading influence of that REVELATION, amongst a people, to whom, at that time, alphabetical writing was unknown.

* Intellectual System.

† Prep. Evang. l. i. c. 10.

‡ Ibid.

|| Chap. vi. 2, 3.

§ St. Cyril, in Catech. Myst. v.

¶ See MONUMENTS, N^o II. of this publication.

LOCH NESS.

THE whole circle of this large lake is one great continued scene of picturesque and noble prospects: the particular views can but exhibit some of their more distinguishing features.

When advancing from INVERNESS, one gains the summit of the hill above *Aldoury*, and gliding down the opposite declivity, the eye meets the whole azure expanse of the lake reflecting the firmament, surrounded with majestic rocky mountains which darken the waters with their shade, it affords one of those vast extensive expressions of the sublime in nature, which, in its effect, is equally solemn and pleasing—captivates while it awes, and charms while it elevates and expands the soul.

“When those great scenes of creation,” says a late celebrated author, “open on our view, they rouse an admiration exalting as it is delightful, grasping unconfined and free the immensity of heaven and earth at a glance, the mind is rendered conscious of its innate dignity, and recognizes those noble comprehensive powers where-with it is endowed; and this often yields the secret unperceived charm that transports us in the contemplation of magnificent scenery.”

From the above station, when one first gains the view of *Loch Ness*, the prospect is extremely noble, but too vast and extensive to be comprized in a drawing: the arable lands, which, on the southern declivity of this hill, are rich and thoroughly cultivated, and finely varied with thriving plantations; and the inclosures connected with the seats of the inhabitants; form an animating and chearful fore-ground, to the prospect of the wild majestic mountains beyond towering round the lake.

The magnitude and cloudy top of that old volcano MEALFOURVOUNICH, and the varying shades of the other bleak and rocky hills, whose dark wreaths of woods, and broken cliffs, form a grand inclosure, and a noble contrast to the lively azure of the tranquil lake—the frequent torrents seen foaming down amid the pines that overhang the nearer precipices; while the distant tops of the remoter mountains seem dissolving away in air—constitutes altogether such an assemblage of striking objects in a boundless landscape, as, while it arrests attention, gives a powerful invitation to become more intimately conversant with the various scene.

The two more eminent travellers who have visited the banks of this lake, have written down memorials of their entertainment while they passed along, which may prove the most acceptable accompaniment that could be given to a view of *Loch Ness*.

“This beautiful lake has a great resemblance to some parts of the lake of *Lucerne*, especially towards the east end;—I enjoyed along its banks a most romantic scenery, generally immersed in woods, but for the most part open enough to admit a

sight of the water, and frequently gave a view of the sides and tops of the vast mountains soaring above : in general, these were covered with wood, except on the mere precipices, and where the grey rock denied vegetation, or where the heath, now glowing with purple blossoms, covered the surface. There was here no possibility of cultivation ;—but sheep and small cattle are fed in the forest—the goats live luxuriously on the tender branches of the trees. The wild animals that possess this picturesque scene are stags and roes, black game and grouse ; and on the summits white hares and ptarmigans.

“ The road on which we travelled was itself a source of entertainment—it has been made with great labour, and is perfectly hard and level, in many places resembling a fine and regular avenue, in others it is cut round the rocky sides of the hills which overhang the Loch—the rock on one side forming a lofty solid wall, on the other a steep precipice, in some places bordered with trees and bushes, from which our guides gathered nuts.

“ This day’s journey was pleasant ; the day was calm, the air soft, the limpid waters of the lake were gliding to the bank, waving their surface with a gentle agitation. The steep rocks of the hill are shaded with birch, the hardy native of the north : beyond the woods, they are seen towering up in horrid nakedness. The dark heath, and the rocks, are now and then diversified by small streams of water rushing down the steep.

“ An eye, accustomed to flowery pastures, and to waving harvests, is astonished at the appearance and properties of mountainous regions ; but these constitute a great part of the earth—and he that has never seen them, must live unacquainted with much of the face of nature, and with one of the great scenes of human existence.”

It is a milder and more lively recreation, indeed, to wander through parks and pleasure-grounds, to admire the gayer and more luxuriant beauties of the garden, and the rural scene ; but still the majestic features of the uncultivated wilderness, and extensive prospects of nature gained from the rocky brows of the lofty mountains, yields an expansion of fancy, and native elevation of thought, accompanied with impressions more interesting and solemn—and leaves on the memory traces of an entertainment more sublime.

LORD OLIPHANT'S CASTLE.

NEAR to the pleasant valley where BALVENY CASTLE is situated*, on the north there is a circular sweep of hills, whose declivities fall down into a deep bottom, in the midst of which there is a small lake formed by the streams that trickle down the sides of the hills; the borders of the lake are enriched with extensive plantations, which make a pleasing enclosure to the piece of water called *Loch Park*. The rivulet running from this loch gives the name of STRATH-ISLA to a very fertile and valuable district of the country; in which, encreasing its waters as it winds along, and gliding through the barony of KEITH, it is at length poured over the rocks; near to the most precipitous parts of which the remains of LORD OLIPHANT'S CASTLE stands, and forms the picturesque cascade, of which some idea is given in the annexed plate. The situation of MILLTOWN, on the adjacent banks of the rivulet, is altogether romantic, and forms a pleasing village; the advantages of level fields, and command of water, for mills, bleaching, &c. has raised the neighbouring town of *Keith* into some considerable importance, as a place where the thread and linen manufactures are carried on with success. When admiring the situation of the tower and its demesnes, Lord *Oliphant* seems to demand great credit as a man of taste, for placing his residence in so wildly rural a scene: but on perceiving that it is not the slight simple edifice of a country seat, open around, and easy of access; but a species of fortress walled about with jealous care, placed on peninsulated precipices, constructed with these small embrazures, from which they might fearless annoy approaching enemies, and prevent the assailants attack, the illusion of the fancied choice vanishes, and less pleasing motives are seen to have determined the place of abode.

In the reign of ALEXANDER the Second, most of the lands in the barony of KEITH were devoted, at the instance of that monarch, to support and add splendor to the establishments of the SEE of MORAY; and BRICIUS, the then celebrated bishop, employed the revenue arising from them accordingly; chapels were endowed, to accommodate the several parts of the district with the evangelical institutions. The present kirk of KEITH occupies the walls of a Catholic building. When adding, some years ago, to the altar end of it, they dug up many tomb-stones, which had lain for centuries buried in the ground; on one was sculptured a mitred abbot, unknown; for either no inscription had been added to the effigy, or is now irrecoverably blended in the mass of the mouldering stone.

From the several periods of the sixteenth century, when, in the changes of government, the fluctuating councils of administration more or less countenanced the Presbyterian plea for a reform of the religious institutions—are to be dated various peculiar revolutions of property, which took place as the interests of EPISCOPACY rose or fell in the political scale.

While it was in agitation, that the hierarchy of the episcopal communion should be abrogated in *Scotland*, the extensive territories which had been devoted by princes and nobles to the church, opened a spacious field of interest in the reform, where the ambition of numbers failed not to regale their hopes of acquiring additional fortunes,

* See N° II.

by the suppression of the dignified clergy. Many of the barons, therefore, readily caught the spirit of the prevailing zeal, and warmly espoused the expediency of reducing religion to a simpler form, than was found in the expensive establishment of cathedrals and collegiate churches: accordingly, during the minority of *James VI.* we find the schemes of the sacrilegious avarice nearly completed; and while the insatiable *Morton* directed the councils of administration, the greatest part of the revenues of the church were alienated to secular purposes, and to indulge the wishes of his favourites. It is true, that when the above monarch ascended the throne of these united kingdoms, and saw how far the stability of his crown was to be maintained by the influence of the spiritual lords, by royal authority the lands and revenues of the church were to be restored, and the BISHOPS of SCOTLAND ordained to resume their seats in parliament, as some balance to the turbulent spirit and encreasing power of the barons. The General Assembly, which had been authorized by law, as a supreme council for consulting the interests of religion, joined their voice of approbation to the decrees of the king, and concurred in the expediency of these measures: but the barons, who had once tasted the comfort of enjoying the ecclesiastical emoluments, and thereby finding their fortunes more unembarrassed and free, reluctantly gave up their claim to the possession, and soon profited anew of the opportunities which the succeeding distractions of government offered them—favoured the popular remonstrances of the hardships they suffered from the alledged tyranny of the bishops—and concurred with the preachers against EPISCOPACY, to obtain the sanction of law for its abolition, and the future appropriation to themselves of the extensive revenues which had supported the Catholic institutions. At what particular epochs of the reformation the several lands devoted to the church reverted into the hands of the nobles, is not always particularly specified in the annals of that period, nor would be of much essential consequence, if more particularly known.

Laurence the fourth Lord *Olipbant*, who served heir to his father in 1566, is represented in memorials of the times as a man of singular merit, a great loyalist, adhering firmly to the interests of *QUEEN MARY* during all the time of the civil wars*. His son married a daughter of the Earl of *MORTON*. Few families had made a greater figure in *Caledonian* story than his. The race is traced up to a *NOBLE DANE*, who came over in the reign of *DONALD VI.* One of the descendants is found witness to a charter of a priory granted by King *David II*†. Another, a man of great interest and power, married Lady *ELIZABETH BRUCE*, daughter of the immortal King *ROBERT*.

Charles the seventh Lord *Olipbant*, who, in the end of last century, married a young lady of the family of *OGILVIE* of *Milltown*, built this castle, which still retains his name. Their only son died when young; and their lands in the barony of *Keilb* were recognized, by adjudication, to be then the property of the *EARLS* of *FINDLATER*. They had been of old in the possession of that family; and after various fortune restored, continue annexed to the extensive territories, which constitute their present so valuable estate.

* *Douglasi's Peerage*, 528.

† *Chartulary of Coldingham*.

RADIATED STAR.

Published in the *Annals of the Entomological Society*, June 1879, by Peter Marshall, Engineer, No. 31 Grand Street, New York.

C. radiata pinn. 4

RADIATED STAR.

WHEN we survey this vast universe, with that amplitude of thought which the midnight scene of the heavens inspires, the immensity of these boundless fields of wonder so fills the mind, that even to return to the consideration of the order of the seasons, and the earth's annual orbit, seems to be contracting our view; and still more so the investigation of the inferior arrangements of nature: yet when we follow out any one part of the system, through the marvellous contrivances of its formation, by a philosophic inspection of the minutest atom of the organized world, the mind is equally lost in admiration, as in the survey of the myriads of suns, and other worlds that surround us.

There are unseen properties of being which our reason cannot descry; perhaps the recondite springs of vegetation, and mysterious unfoldings of animal life, equally surpass our understanding as the sublime attributes of the first agent of the universe.

The intellectual treasures that may be gathered in the vast empire of nature, are as diversified as extensive—we can imbibe but a few detached rays of an infinite light, which is profusely poured through all the departments of creation.

In every instance the light of heaven seems to embellish the path of admiration, and, inspired by this, all the beauties of nature seem consulted, to fill the affections of our hearts with joy.

When intent on any particular subject of wonder, that occurs amid the endless diversities of animated being, the delight of the mind ever rises in proportion as it develops the more hidden consultations of wisdom, which has arranged their organs, and informed their frame.

The occasionally selecting instances, where the beautiful arrangements of skill are eminently conspicuous, and where exquisite contrivances embellish their useful structure—the taking leisure to dwell, with suitable attention, even on the smallest of these wonders—has influence, by degrees, gradually to inspire that general admiration of the system, in which we bear a part, which is one of the happiest of human attainments, and makes the studious appropriate, with equal delight and instruction, the most minute, as the grandest displays of that Intelligence which has ordered the universe.

The beautiful STAR* of the plate, to which the term† radiated is applied, is never found on the shores, but comes up with stones from corally grounds of the deep. The epithet seems to have been given it, on account of that spread of various-coloured rays which beautify the circle of its body.

The under part of the body, fig. B, comprehending the mouth, is no less elegantly formed; a pentagonal inclosure of the purest white and highly-polished bones, prettily shaped, and disposed with excellent symmetry, constitute an arrangement of organs, whose use and importance we can but in part discover.

Fig. a. is the most common size in which these stars are found—none have been fallen in with here so large as that represented at A. It was purposely magnified in the drawing, to give scope for more adequately expressing the very ornamental form and shades of the stony scales which cover its jointed rays.

But some peculiarities observable, and the apparently singular nature of the numerous spines which arm its rays, merit a still more particular inspection: they offer a subject of minuter investigation, and require an ampler discussion.

It was mentioned, that these stars are dredged up in deep water with stones from a

* In BORLASS'S CORNWALL some resembling species of stars are figured, pl. xxv; but the representations are so inaccurate and unfinished, it is difficult to ascertain whether they are varieties or the same.

† See Br. Zool. vol. iv. p. 54. N^o 65, 66.

corally bottom. They generally are found occupying the cavities of the stones, which have been previously perforated by various species of pholas's: the pholas's have died away, and these artful visitants find a banquet in the slime of their deserted chambers. With a wonderful dexterity they twist their brittle frames uninjured throughout the windings of the smallest perforations; but very little violence offered, in seizing on or retaining them in one place, will break off a part or detach a whole ray. In the course of inspecting their operations this sometimes happened; and, after repeated examination, the separated rays continued to move with inherent life, and exerted an activity as if no separation from the circular body had taken place. This suggested an idea of some extraordinary mode of existence, which preserved its animation after the connection with its primary source of life was broken, and led to a more attentive examination of parts of the ray with the microscope, the result of which was attended with no small degree of surprise.

From the appearance of an arrangement of short thickset hairs, that run along the edges of the rays, *one character* of them has been given by naturalists in the denomination *hirsute*; these, when largely magnified, appear to be a kind of transparent bristles or spines, themselves hirsute on the sides, as in the specimen c c; and an individual spine, put under more powerful glasses, disclosed a superior order of beauty as at d, which seemed to indicate some consultation of nature that had reference to farther than visible use.—When Mr. ELLIS laid before the Royal Society his first observations on Corallines, he hesitated to affirm the various life which he apprehended them to possess, until longer attention fully unfolded to him their singular properties. The author of these remarks feels himself in a similar situation, in adventuring to suggest the probable nature of the spines of this star, as it is a circumstance which, to the best of his knowledge, has never been yet guessed at; but which when evinced, opens a most wonderful field for reflection on the amazing expedients for diffusing and preserving life, wherewith those regions teem, which, covered with the deep, are in a great measure inaccessible to the human race.

Should every spine along the rays of this star be invested with arrangements of those living flowers that actuate the corallines, what a wonderful life must the animal system possess amid such a myriad of energies! Of guardian spiculæ, such as defend the dwellings of the coral polypes, there generally is not less than thirty on a spine, and a hundred spines are often on a ray—there may then be found fifteen thousand of these active blossoms of life, which, while they indulge their play, and drink in the vital spirit of the tide, are engaged in administering to the nourishment of a single star.

Such a profusion of vital array, in a beauty and order so seldom seen, and which it is so difficult to obtain a clear inspection of, is such a provision of nature for the animation of her offspring, as equally eludes our understanding, as it surpasses the keenest glance of admiration in any adequate degree to apprehend.

Yet the exquisite structure of these spines, the arrangement of the spiculæ, disposition of the cells under them, as in the very highly magnified specimen of D, and their surprising resemblance to the infant corals, delineated fig. a, and A, of N° 14, leave no room for a doubt, that the above œconomy of nature, amid her infinite varieties, is one of the *unrecorded* consultations, an additional link of the marvellous chain of existence unfolded to human view.

PRIMÆVAL HIEROGLYPHICS.

ON introducing the hieroglyphical sculptures on the obelisks represented in the plate, to that particular notice which their sacred nature seems to demand, it may not be improper to quote some passages from the earlier writers, by whom mention of them has been made.

BOETIUS talks of these mystic figures, expressly, as having some unknown allusions to national record or religious truths, and of their unaccountable resemblance to EGYPTIAN symbols; and, when producing some parts of history relating to *Aberlemney* in ANGUS, seems to refer to the monument A, when he describes, "a huge stone erected there, on which are figures of animals and abstruse devices, engraven in strange characters, which had no doubt been intended, according to the mode of writing at the time, to convey the memory of certain transactions to posterity *."

Induced by this part of *Boetius's* narrative, Mr. *Gordon* examined the stone in question, and gives the following account of the figure at the top †: "There is a hieroglyphic, which I own I am at a loss to describe or explain, only it is a bordered square, with another smaller square within it, somewhat resembling a door or entry; above that passes a line, at one end of which hangs a plummet: near there is a bordered circle, from which project two smaller circles opposite to each other." This passage is quoted partly to express the attention which these figures attracted, and partly to authenticate their identity, and so guard against the suspicion of innovation, by shewing, that notwithstanding the cursory manner in which Mr. *Gordon* made his drawings, still that he nearly traced the genuine figures, although of their import he had no adequate idea, and that they only are more accurately delineated in the plate, while they form the high subject of great part of the following discussion.

The other corresponding representation of the stone, marked B, is part of an obelisk, standing on the northern declivity of the mountain *Benachie*, in the county of MAR, and is yet entire and undefaced, notwithstanding the rigours it must have endured of near a thousand winters; and is also figured in plate LIX. of the *Itinerarium Septentrionale*. Now in these the TRIUNE LINE is again conspicuous, begun and finished with the sceptral emblem, and (as illustrated in the former number) was the hieroglyphic of the efficient power of the Deity. But here, extending over the earliest symbols of the solar system and *the gate of time*, other important considerations occur, necessary to unfold the full import of the sublime instruction couched under these enigmatical signs.

But perhaps an apology is requisite for striving to unravel them at all, as the process must be elaborate. Why return to the beginning of ages, to decypher SIGNS and symbols, now altogether obsolete, and almost unknown?

* *Boetius*, lib. xii. p. 243.

† *Iler. Septen.* 151.

One reason is obvious: these must prove the illustration and import of the mystic lines and characters wherewith the *Caledonian* obelisks are impressed; or it must in all probability follow, that they never will be found to have had any meaning at all. The latter position cannot be admitted; for these trophies, uniformly emblazoned in a distinguished manner on the more eminent compartments of the obelisks—wrought with the greatest mathematical accuracy—with such studious care raised on the most durable stone—in far distant provinces corresponding with each other—and on monuments erected near to Druid Temples, and in other consecrated places—we scarce can doubt of their preserving memorials of religious and national importance, according to the uniform ideas on which all sculptured obelisks were originally raised; and therefore ought to look among these mouldering lines for the interesting communications which they were intended to convey.

Another not less obvious and inviting reason, nor less momentous in the chief views of antiquarian research, is, that the noblest, and perhaps the brightest beams of knowledge, are derived from following the light of human wisdom to its primæval sources. By this pursuit we attain to the first rudiments and origin of literature; we advance beyond the dubious dawn of historical record, and attain intuitive communications as from the FOUNTAIN HEAD OF TRUTH. This is to drink of the so famed CASTALIAN SPRING, of which so much has been written, and so little is known.

Justly, then, as applicable to the daring attempt, is the fragment, Fig. C. of an obelisk in ROSS-SHIRE thrown down: it retains a simple figure thrice repeated, which was some time in *Grecian* architecture esteemed an elegant ornament, but was on the obelisks of *Ægypt* of philosophical import: as copied from the PAMPHILIAN at ROME, it is placed with some others as on a stone D, at the foot of the above-mentioned CALEDONIAN monuments, with a view more distinctly to ascertain the following illustrations. 'Twas a symbol which expressed the "*narrow way*," the intricate windings of the passage that led through the sacred fanes to the chambers of imagery and initiation*.

These were the original labyrinths; and in reference to these the above hieroglyphic equally implied, the embarrassment and difficulty attending the paths of science that led to the knowledge of recondite TRUTHS.

Let us enter then this symbolic HOUSE OF THE WORLD †. We see *there* the GATE of the sanctuary open—the sun and moon to give us light. It is the temple of the universe. The sceptre by which it is governed extends equally beyond the sun and moon in depth, as over them above, and circumscribes their spheres. There is a grandeur

* See Kercher, Obelis. Pamphil. lib. v. p. 481. first Symbol.

† MUNDANA DOMUS † This title is given to the Hieroglyphic of the VISIBLE CREATION, by PLUTARCH, in his letter to the PRIESTESS of the SUN, "De Osiride & Ifide."—And he seems to have taken it from the HERMETICAL ORACLES on Symbols.

of thought, worthy of *Ægyptian* wisdom, in their so frequent allusions to the vast domination which the sun pervades, when he leaves our hemisphere, equally enlightening the surrounding worlds, while to us it is night*. The inculcating this, impressed new ideas of the amplitude of the universe, and gave dignity and force to the hieroglyphic of the scepter, that governs all things in the heavens above, and equally rules among the constellations which replenish the etherial depths that are under the earth.

The extraordinary and almost unaccountable resemblance between the quadrangular figures on the obelisks A and B, and those at E and F, on the stone D, so divinely commented on in the wonderfully just and deep speculations of *ATHENASIUS KERCHER*, “*E SOCIETATE JESU!*” † must vindicate the enlarging farther on this so singular and sacred subject.

The two *GREAT LIGHTS* of this mystic temple of the square! are the sun and moon. The sun's place in the zodiac, from the earliest ages of astronomy, had the appellation of his *house*. When the moon *apparently* occupied the same place in the heavens, formed an eclipse, or, moving from it, renewed her crescent—this was the first great index for ascertaining time; the epoch by which religious solemnities, and assemblies for the celebration of all divine instructive rites, were regulated: it was the beginning of months!

It is doubly expressed, by the symbols of the sun and moon in one house, and the hieroglyphic of an eclipse at the gate.

When there was yet no alphabet or written record, we cannot conceive a more suitable concatenation of circumstances, to constitute characters of the *BEGINNING* of Wisdom, and of the *SOURCE* of Knowledge. But at this late period how shall we enter into the depth of contemplation that swayed the memorials of primæval piety, in applying the symbols of science to a more hallowed communication? for these figures, chosen to signify the most resplendent objects of creation, and the line wherewith they were bounded, were appropriated to inspire reflection on the *ORIGIN* of all things, and became the *FIRST LETTERS* by which a *NAME* for the *DEITY* was expressed ‡.

The original *COPTIC* hierogram *ΠΟC*, is therefore added over the figure F, to illustrate this mysterious doctrine. And the respectable authority, already quoted, must be here again more especially adduced, to authenticate that the above approach to the *PRIMÆVAL LIGHT* is no fancied vision ||.

A most

* *EUSEBIUS*. Pluto vero Sol est, Terram subiens, atque occultum percurrens Orbem.

† Obelis. Pamphil. 493, lib. v.

‡ This wonderful epoch is perhaps alluded to *GEN. IV. 26. ult.* אֲדָמָה לְקָרָא בְשֵׁם יְהוָה. To the above purpose the common translation is sufficiently explicit; but the text may with equal justice be rendered, “Then began men to call the *LORD* by a *HOLY NAME*.”

|| *DEI* nomen *ΠΟC* dicebatur, quod in *LINGUA ÆGYPTIACA* idem significat quod *Dominus*: primam

A most singular attestation of this deduction, is also derived from one of the most momentous monuments of antiquity that ever was discovered; the MARBLE sculptured over with sacerdotal characters, dug up near to the city of SIGANFU in CHINA, which has given to the world so much knowledge of the writings of that celebrated country †. On THIS the character, represented near the labyrinth, over E, is repeatedly inserted, and seems but an abridgment of the COPTIC ΠOC : but what renders it the more remarkable is, that it uniformly stands for "In the beginning ‡," or for words that express a corresponding idea; and indicates a surprizing coincidence in the structure of the SIGNS, by which the sages of the Eastern nations of the world conveyed their divine instructions.

The three connected circles, already illustrated in N° 14, here again conspicuously occur to view; carved parallel to these great characters of the universe now explained, and give additional emphasis to their symbolical allusion; for this figure was the memorial of the golden chain, or necessary dependence, which philosophical discernment saw in the creation.

"These SACRED RINGS," says HERMES, "O Asclepius! are the ORIGINAL ORDER! the hieroglyphic infolding this oracle. On the ETERNAL MIND depends the PROVIDENTIAL SWAY, by which the endless circle and ORDER OF NATURE is supported."

These are the first principles of that wonderful CHAIN, which PYTHAGORAS and PLATO celebrated, as containing the highest mysteries revealed to them by the Pontiffs of *Ægypt* ||.

primam literam referebant per Π, quam portam appellabant Mundanz Domus; reliquis duabus literis O C, Solem & Lunam, κυριολογικῶς, teste CLEMENTE, indicantibus.—Obelis. Pamphil. 492, 493.

† See the Plate in *Ker. CHINA ILLUSTRATA*.

‡ With some little variation: "From the beginning; Originally; First of all,"

|| Obelis. Pamphil. lib. v. 396.

P. M. Angel, sculp.

C. GARDNER, pinx.

PLUSCARDINE ABBEY.

THIS celebrated abbey, the lands devoted to it, and the ample endowments wherewith it was invested, were constituted a priory, and the prior a lord of regality within his demesne, by *Alexander II.* king of *Scotland*, and long flourished the seat of learning and of hospitality; where sciences and arts were cultivated and encouraged—the secluded fane where the sacred oracles were kept, and from whence they were in awful rites communicated—Its general constitution, and some traits of its history, have already come under our notice*; the additional particulars, selected to accompany the view of its ruins now presented, are chiefly taken from the peculiarities of design observable in the remains of fresco paintings, once the venerable embellishment of that sacred pile, now fast mouldering away into irrecoverable oblivion. It is now upwards of two hundred years since this abbey, along with many similar establishments which adorned the country, went to ruin. Soon as the clergy were compelled to relinquish the emoluments which supported their state, these sacred edifices, forsaken by their protectors, were rifled by the populace; who, in the prevailing delirium of the times, were taught that it was a pious labour to hasten the destruction of all that their forefathers held most venerable and divine. Considering the devastation which they were thus fated to undergo, and so long a period of time since elapsed, it is rather a remarkable circumstance that, on the roofs and walls of these buildings, so much of the fresco paintings should remain undefaced, as to preserve memorials of the mysterious and complicated designs which had been so elaborately executed on them. The most plain and obvious of these is on the lofty arch of the entrance to the sanctuary of the great altar: There *St. John*, about to write, in an attitude expressive of attention to the objects before him, is seated under a canopy, and accompanied by his well-known eagle, lifts his eyes to the concave of the arch above, where the glowing colours of “that splendid bow, which is seen in the cloud in the day of rain †,” attract our notice. It was a primæval sign, a symbol of the sanctuary held in highest veneration; as a memorial of the fidelity and gracious care of PROVIDENCE, it was portrayed in the ORACLE; it was that Heavenly ARCH which none but the CHOSEN passed under, when admitted to the HOLY VISION. Therefore, when describing the annual solemnity of unfolding the great scene within the vail, the Evangelical Divine, revealing the mysteries, says, “I saw a rainbow round about the throne ‡.” It is the various relations that such imagery bears to ancient truth, that renders it interesting; and in these lights, when we trace them up to their origin, the commonness of any representations is no reason for their being overlooked or undervalued. Within the lofty arch, the sun and moon, an arrangement of constellations, and some other splendid characters are painted. In all ages the heavens have been considered as the more sublime throne of the Deity. The above were ever held the symbols of His unbounded dominion and universal sway. Those mighty worlds that shine with undecaying splendor, revolving in the firmament, are indeed the gems of a magnificent DIADEM. *Pythagoras*, who with such amazing perseverance and enlightened zeal sought and gained access to all the oracles of early wisdom, gloried in having seen the THRONE of the DEITY, raised in the hallowed cave, which, from time immemorial, had been consecrated in the grove of Mount Ida. By the fatal system that then prevailed, they cautiously guarded, by solemn vows of secrecy, every declaration concerning the nature of these manifestations of divine truths; yet it is evident, from the lofty terms in which some of the initiated have conveyed their admiration of that THRONE, that it consisted of the great rudiments of a primæval ORRERY, from which infallible demonstrations were drawn of the dominion of One Sovereign Ruler and Guardian of the whole; and this gave real dignity to the so celebrated oracles and sacred communications obtained in the *Idalion* § groves.

* No 5.

† *Ezekiel*, i. 28.

‡ *Revelation*, iv. 3.

§ *Isaiah*, Behold the Sun!

On account of the deep veneration wherewith these symbols were regarded, it would appear from *Josephus*, that they were wove in splendid characters on the vail of the Temple of *Jerusalem*. In very early ages of Christianity they were appropriated as embellishments of evangelical shrines, and handed down as requisite to adorn the vestibule to the high offices of devotion. In allusion to this, *St. Cyril* quotes it as language adapted to the Hymn of the Eucharistical sacrifice—"The sun and moon, and the whole choir of stars praise Thee*!"

Thus far has reflection been led by the paintings on the entrance to the great altar. In the sacristy, more complicated designs, and more wonderful schemes of theology, seem to have been pursued. In Catholic churches, the sacristy is generally understood as the apartment where the moveable ornaments and utensils of the altar, the sacred vestments, and other appendages of religious rites are kept. In the mystic fane of *Eleusis*, and temples of the East, built after *Egyptian* models, the *sacristies* were chambers where the chief apparatus of symbols and hieroglyphics were arranged, which had reference to the rites of initiation; and the various steps, by which they advanced to the secret communications of the sanctuary, were there narrated to them.

In *Pluscantine Abbey* it is a long vaulted gallery, the roof and walls of which has been wholly covered with emblematical paintings: Considerable traces of these remain, exhibiting evangelists and apostles nearly as large as life, accompanied with their several characteristic attributes, and many allegorical representations thronged around. In the midst of them, the august symbol of the Church, "A woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars†," attracts peculiar attention. But there is a yet more striking and awful figure above, replete with more daring allusions, which one could have scarce ventured to describe, were it not for the correspondency of design observable in it to some of those incomprehensible pieces of sculpture executed in the early, though darker periods of Christianity, that are preserved with such care in museums on the continent. One of these may be seen represented by a plate in *Kercher's Theatrum Hieroglyphicum*‡.

The *Messiah* seated on a throne, in the attitude of benediction, is mysteriously veiled; his head encircled with solar rays, in reference to the declaration, "I am the light of the world;" but the allusion is carried on by characters or designations of the planets being placed around the *Throne of Light*. On the four angles of the square which contains the figure, there are symbols of the elements; a crescent is placed before the throne, and an expressive *Alpha* and *Omega* indicate the sacred reference of the whole; while *St. John* and the Holy Virgin are bending with veneration towards these sacred insignia!

The strange association of ideas that induced Christian artists, who exercised their genius under the immediate tuition of the Catholic fathers, to employ primæval symbols as offering illustrations of the evangelical truths, presents us with one of these subjects of speculation which human ingenuity perhaps will never fully unravel. Some considerations, that swayed with the first pastors to find devotion in appropriating the tenets of the hieroglyphical communications to elucidate the divine instructions of the Gospel of *Jesus*, have already been touched on in preceding numbers; other reflections on this, one of the most interesting and curious, if not the most momentous of all the subjects on which modern erudition has been employed, are offered on the following pages, along with the plate of some pieces of sculpture that are yet extant also in *Pluscantine Abbey*; in unfolding the high import of which, it is presumed requisite to advance some steps into an unexplored region; and in doing so the laudable zeal is unavoidable, of following a great example, "TO UTTER THINGS WHEREOF ALL ANTI-
"QUITY HATH BEEN SILENT||."

* *Catech. Myst.*

† *Rev.* xii. 1.

‡ *Vol.* iii. p. 36.

|| *Matth.* xiii. 15. *Campbell's Trans.*

Donnell Smith

COAST OF MORAY.

THIS fertile province is in general a champaign country, of a soil naturally rich and luxuriant, but sandy towards the coast; and, in the environs of those rocks represented in the plate, to a distance of several miles, is very flat, and nearly on a level with the sea.

These are the plains celebrated in early story, as a thousand years ago the seat of plenty, opulence, and ease, of which the princes of *Norway*, by many an arduous enterprise and powerful armament, strove to maintain possession, or render tributary to their state; but of whose final dislodgement from their fortresses, and relinquishment of the country, the superb Obelisk at *Forres* * was set up as a memorial.

The levelness and lightness of many parts of that sandy soil has exposed it, at times, to alarming fluctuations. In seasons peculiarly warm and dry, when violent winds have occurred, they have, by waisting the loose sands along, accomplished the ruin of many a field; yet fortunately these, after lying useless for years, accumulating slime and mud, along with the streams in rain, which spread a quick vegetation, have renewed the soil, and been restored to arable lands, and contributed again to the richness of the plain.

A vast tract of this district, lying between the town of *Elgin* and the coast, seems to have been, at no very remote period, an arm of the firth, which had insulated the rising grounds that terminate in the freestone quarries and picturesque rocks of *Cauessie*. Both written and traditionary annals concur with the appearance of the country in evidence of this; and many fine estates have been gained from the sea.

ROSE ISLAND, which is still the name of the banks of a pleasant hill which lies between the loch of *Spiney* and the shore, speaks its former situation. Near to the burfields of ROSE ISLE there was a free and independent college of the RECLUSE, and their chapel; for a double reason, was called the Chapel of *Untachu*, i. e. of the Solitaries; both on account of the manner of life of the religious order there, and the detached situation of their lands as an island. These fields rise into hilly grounds towards the coast, and there terminate in those bold freestone cliffs, which supply very excellent and durable materials for building; the more valuable, as they carve with ease, and are not easily injured after by the weather. The masses of rock are, however, of various hardness; and the reiterated play of the ocean, especially the penetrating power of the surge in winter storms, has excavated these romantic caverns, and formed the insulated rocks at *Cauessie*, of which a specimen is given in the plate; while the various whirl of the rebounding torrents have scooped out such deep cavities in the projecting cliffs, as in many places have perforated through; so

* See N^o 12.

that to one within the cavern they seem the remains of broken shapeless windows in a Gothic ruin, shedding a dreary light into the recesses of the vaults that yawn beyond.

The hills and rising grounds above specified, are at one end terminated by the BURGH HEAD, where the famous fortress of ECCIALSBACCA* stood, the chief residence of various bands of SCANDINAVIAN adventurers, who, in the tenth and eleventh centuries, came over with a view to make settlements in this province. At the other end these slope gradually down to a very level sandy beach, mixed with pebbles that are easily rolled along by the waves. Here, more especially opposite to INNES HOUSE, the vestiges of the gradual retreat of the sea are perceptible in the several banks of stones and gravel that have at certain intervals been thrown up by the northerly storms. These form extensive lines along the coast; and, each having acted in its turn as a rampart or bulwark, like those of *Holland* defending the lower grounds from inundation, still exhibit to view the natural measures by which the firth has been cut off from the possession of the adjacent plains.

The Loch of SPINIE still occupies a large space of this tract of land, and had been but the deepest part of the mentioned arm of the firth. On its banks the ruins of the Bishop of MORAY's Palace are a venerable memorial of the early value and high estimation in which the surrounding territories were held. The salmon-fisheries of the loch are mentioned in the more ancient charters, as part of the valuation of the adjacent lands; which is another evidence that in remote periods it had a free communication with the sea.

The schemes of art and enterprize, taking advantage of these favourable circumstances in the course of nature, are now yearly adding to the arable lands, by draining of the loch, and conveying its waters by canals to the shore. The abundance of mouldered shells and exuviae of shell-fish, which has for ages been accumulating in the bottom, mingling with the various herbage which shoots up in the shallows, constitutes so rich a marly soil, that the fields gained around are most luxuriant and fertile, and important additions to the adjacent estates.

Such circumstances of reflection may amuse the way, to those who go down from ELGIN, by the Ruins of SPINIE, by CASTLE DUFFUS, or by INNES HOUSE, to look at the Freestone Quarries, and the Rocks of CAUSSIE.

* See *Antiquities and Scenery of Scotland*, plate x. p. 58.

Cladonema purpureum

ACTINIA

P. M'Clintock

ACTINEA, *ANIMAL FLOWER*.

IN "THE NATURAL HISTORY OF MANY CURIOUS AND UNCOMMON ZOOPHYTES," collected by the late celebrated Mr. ELLIS, and arranged by Dr. SOLANDER, the characters of this species are given as follows :

"ANIMAL FLOWER. This animal fixes itself by its base : is of a fleshy substance, and a roundish oblong form : capable of extending or contracting itself. It produces its young alive through its mouth. The mouth, which is in the middle of the upper part, is capable of great extension, and is surrounded by rows of claws or tentacles : it has no other opening but that."

The varieties, however, of which there are engravings in that work, are not numerous, nor are the specific differences so accurately defined as that their identity, without plates, can be easily ascertained. Several additional characters of individuals, given by the above and other eminent naturalists, would apply to the very beautiful ACTINEA here delineated. "The feelers are of various colours, as red, blue, and white, from eighty to a hundred in number;" the circumference of the mouth is striated, surrounded with short petals like those of the *Sun Flower*, and those again with white tentacula barred with brown. When drawn in, it assumes the form of a bell. The body of a pale red*.

Few marine productions can have a greater claim to a faithful representation than this ; not on any account of their being new and uncommon, for they are in great plenty and variety along all the *British* shores ; but because it is so extremely difficult to preserve them in an expanded state when taken from their native rocks. It would appear that they never die, but with all their tentacula completely folded in and concealed ; they only spread in their native element, and cannot or will not unfold their rays when dry. The moment that any spirit touches them, when alive, they contract, retreat, and shut up all their feelers ; so that it is scarce possible to preserve them, for the cabinets of the curious, but devoid of all their symmetry and beauty. Yet the rich variety of colours which their rays exhibit—the exact and charming regularity visible in that legion of arms which surrounds the mouth—the delicate gradations wherewith the several tints soften away into the clear transparency of the more extended tentacula—the gentle radiations that spread from the smooth central disc—and the orderly ranges in which the feelers are placed—afford a specimen of extraordinary elegance, which is well entitled to our admiration, and sufficient apology for the delineation here given of an animal, of which myriads embellish the coast. But, besides, there are peculiarities in the organization of this animal flower, that are not noticed in the above work ; where, however, the just remark occurs, "that there are a great variety of species of ACTINEA not yet described†."

"That this animal has no other aperture or opening but the mouth," is only an adequate definition in a circumscribed sense ; for every one of the tentacula has an orifice at the extremity, through which it sucks in the tide, and by which it catches hold on atoms floating by ; and these feelers are endowed with an instinctive capa-

* *British Zoology*, vol. iv. class vi. of WORMS.

† *Nat. Hist. of Zoophytes*, p. 4.

city, by which, with great dexterity, they bring the atoms seized on, if they are found good for food, to the mouth; if not, after being retained a little while, they are allowed to drop away. Hence it is evident, that the central sense extends to the extremity of each tentacula, and there judges whether the articles it lays hold of be proper for aliment. The action of the extremity of the ray in that suction, when applied to the finger, feels as if there were a little hook in it, catching the hold it takes. The appearance of its muscular powers in the microscope, is given at A. There is also an attractive power, or adhesive faculty, in the sides of the tentacula, as magnified at B; the means exerted to occasion it, not easy to be apprehended.

These animals are not immoveably fixed to the places of the rocks where they take up their abode: they have a locomotive power; but their procedure along the rock is very slow, and they but seldom are inclined to exert themselves in this way. When they find their situation peculiarly uncomfortable, they have another mode of transportation at command, which has not been perhaps sufficiently attended to, at least is not mentioned in Dr. SOLANDER's illustration of Mr. ELLIS's plates. They are provided within with an expansive film, or thin spreading membrane, which they can blow up at pleasure to a perfect balloon, large as the whole animal, as at C; and by this means being rendered specifically lighter than the water, they float on the surface until inclined to seek for another residence; then they contract and draw in the membrane, and so diving to the bottom, affix themselves anew into such chinks of the rocks as will yield them best protection, and where they may find the freest circulation of the tide.

The general appearance of the body of the animal, beginning to open and unfold its tentacula, is represented at D. By a very gradual procedure it advances from that state, until the diverging active rays attain their stations in concentric circles, and assume the form of the full-spread flower, and beautiful arrangement of the figure E. If any little fish, or shell with its animal in it, once falls within the sphere of these rays, it is irretrievably entangled: the moment that one ray announces the approaching acquisition, the whole system direct their attention to the prey; it is seized on, and enclosed on every side, folded close into the bosom of the animal, until the voracious mouth hath swallowed it up. It gulps down limpets and buckies, shell and all, and, after sucking out the snails, ejects the shells again. If the shell swallowed is very large, it finds difficulty in getting it back to the mouth; and in that case forces it through its side, regardless of the muscles, which it tears asunder.——The whole body and tentacula of these very beautiful polypes are delicate and tender in extreme; easily injured by any external violence, but have a remarkable power of recovery from the severest wounds; like those of MILTON's ANGELS, by an inherent virtue they immediately, or very soon, close up and heal again. If one is completely divided, or cut asunder in three or four parts, it does not destroy its organization with its individuality; but each separate part becomes a distinct animal, in a few days form their several lesser circles of tentacula around a central mouth, and enjoy renewed existence. And this peculiarity is perhaps one of the most striking phenomena of animal life.

C. Cordier pinx.

P. Magelli sculp.

SACRIFICE OF THE ELEMENTS.

NEAR the altar end of PLUSCARDINE ABBEY, the bas-relief, represented in the upper part of the plate, is carved over the sacred cell, or repository of the Eucharistic elements. The import and allusion of the figures sculptured there, came under consideration when describing a monument of similar appropriation, which is carved near the altar place of the chapel which stands by the ruins of *Deakford Castle* *.

The above bas-relief is only introduced now, on account of the resemblance in many particulars to the design of the one beneath, which is placed in the end of the sacristy, where it opens to another altar. This resemblance is a powerful inducement to believe, that they had been carved with some correspondent allusions. The similar office of the kneeling cherubs gives sacred importance to the figures on the shield which they support. This expression of angelic piety, so grateful, so solemn, will not admit of touching slightly on the symbols which they seemingly present in homage to the skies. In the four divisions of the shield made by the cross, the elements are characterized. These had been judged to have some primitive reference to the solemnities of the altar; and their high import has been often felt. It will be scarce admitted as an argument of much moment, in this disquisition, that in the appropriate language of several churches the symbols of the Eucharistical sacrifice are still distinguished by the title of *THE ELEMENTS*. The fathers borrowed much of the language of the ancient MYSTERIES, and, appropriating it to the evangelical institutions, mingled much of the sublimest speculations of the ancient philosophy with the tenor of that piety to be indulged in those RITES authorized by the gospel of JESUS; the grandeur of the deep solemnities which so long hallowed the Temple of ELEUSIS, and other sanctuaries which preserved the oracles of the *Egyptian* fables, and spread a wonderful impression of their high and lasting moment. The great ideas of that inspiration from the Throne of God, which puts the universe in motion, and the laws established over Nature, as the agents of Infinite Wisdom, led them, through variety of steps, to venerate those elementary influences that preserve the whole; and, by recognizing these, gradually to ascend to the sense and acknowledgment of that Supreme Intelligence which reigns for ever.

The astonishing virtues which proceed from the emanations of the solar fire, long left deep impressions on the minds of men!

The benign influences of the SUN, on which the seasons of the year and flourishing estate of all nature seems in so great a measure to depend, attracted early veneration: his rays are the most subtle penetrating fire. Homage, even to a fault, paid to the expressive symbols of his power, is attributed to ZOROASTER and the Eastern MAGI. They recognized the other elements acting in union with the solar influence, as the first springs of vegetation and of life; symbols of these, therefore, could not fail to occupy a distinguished sphere in the system of hieroglyphical communication. They are frequent on the sacred OBELISKS of EGYPT, and on the PATRIARCHAL COLUMNS which were transferred into their temples.

As accurately sculptured on an antique gem in the *Gorlean Museum*, they are expressed at the circle marked ERYX, and on the piece of metal intitled ABRAX.

These are engraven to explain the faded traces of the shield, which the adoring cherubim present in homage to the skies *. The elements were seen continually engaged in sustaining the animation and unfolding the beauties of creation, as the primary principles employed in the preservation of all visible being; but their original energies becoming efficient, according to the counsels of an infinite understanding, obviously occurred to the contemplations of early piety; and saints and sages, anxious to explore and disclose the secrets of intellectual existence, instituted the SACRIFICE of the ELEMENTS, or the placing of their symbols in solemn rites upon the altar, as the profoundest acknowledgment of that INEFFABLE WISDOM which presided over their administration; and thus strove to reveal to the devout aspirants, within the vail of the mysteries of Nature, the dominion of the Intelligent Ruler and Great Inspirer of the Universe.

These solemn rites not only manifested to the initiated, how surely they were under the government of Infinite Wisdom, but impressed on their hearts these considerations, additionally interesting: "That the human mind and understanding, which comprehends the universe, more admirable than the rays of light that irradiate immensity, is an emanation from a more glorious sun; and that by receiving with due devotion, in solemn rites, the signs of the consecrated elements, they entered into a new and immortal alliance with the GREAT SOURCE OF BEING †."

Traces of these primæval ideas of the first springs of life beam from the records of the first EVANGELIST, wherein ST. JOHN the Baptist expresses the divine influence of the EMMANUEL and his holy doctrines in language borrowed from the elements: "I indeed sanctify you with WATER, but HE shall sanctify you with the Holy SPIRIT and with FIRE ‡." This adds no small dignity to the persuasion of their hallowed appropriation in the primæval rites of piety; and, in the ritual of the TEMPLE of JERUSALEM, the elements severally, WATER, AIR, and FIRE, had each annexed to it the epithet "HOLY," on account of the purifying nature attributed to them when applied in the solemnities of the Mosaic institutions.

These reflections poured in their animation, while revolving the contents of a momentous RECORD extant on a venerable column, reared before the porch of the Temple of the DEITY in the City of the SUN. It bore witness to the primæval light of Heaven, which shone on the minds of men long ere Cadmus diffused the mistaken rudiments of Grecian knowledge; and it still preserves, in original purity, the most ample treasures of EGYPTIAN WISDOM!

But can these oracles be now with fidelity and truth disclosed, of which all-admiring antiquity has so devoutly kept the wonderful secret?—It is presumed they can.

The specimen here offered to the public view is but an extract from a work of infinite labour, affording a full illustration of the extraordinary annals contained in the maze of symbols wherewith the PAMPHILIAN OBELISK at ROME is covered over: yet, as this fragment so happily relates to the subject specified above, no apology can be requisite for adding the testimony which it bears to truths of everlasting moment.

* A cup, a fish, or waving lines beneath a crescent, implied the element of WATER. A quill, or feather, was the most simple, a caduceus the more complex symbol of the properties of AIR. The winged thunder-bolt, a forked flame or dart, was put for the penetrating power of FIRE. And a dry tree indicated EARTH, or matter seemingly deprived of the action of the other elements.

† Plato, *Tamblicus*.

‡ See CAMPBELL's *Trans. of the Evangelists*, Notes on Matt. iii.

Extract of a TRANSLATION from the SYMBOLS of the
P A M P H I L I A N O B E L I S K.

INFINITE WISDOM REIGNS!
And with the OMNIPOTENT, ESSENTIAL GOODNESS dwells.

The SUN,

enthroned on high,
pervading with his glories the pavilion of the Stars,
and spreading the everlasting splendor of his light to distant worlds,
his crowned by the ALMIGHTY, as the most expressive image of his sovereign goodness.
Blazing from that Source of Light,
the vital fires diffuse a boundless animation round,
and call forth every form of beauty
that can enrich and adorn the terrestrial Ball.

The ELEMENTS

are the Ministers of his Throne,
which aid in executing his high behests sent forth
to inform, to quicken, and unfold the wonderful properties of Nature.

The AIR,

that fans the vegetable world,
gives the fowls to fly in the open firmament,
and is the first, last principle of animal life;
proclaims in every movement the varied action of the solar rays.

The Element of WATER,

actuated by the ethereal warmth,
universally diffuses its all-sustaining virtues;
transpires with grateful energies through rising plants and flowers,
ascending to the skies; spreads abroad upon the wings of the wind,
and again descending in the dews of heaven, preserves and nourishes all things.

The EARTH,

herself endowed with all-prolific energies,
with virgin attractions conciliates attention from on high,
and gains the aerial visitations that quicken her genial virtues.
The descending Heavens yield the propitious influence to animate her unfolding beauties;
the Sun from his radiant sphere beholds the delightful produce,
and in this wonderful administration sees his reflected glory.

The MOON,

in softened lustre, retains the splendors of the absent Sun;
with cooling light imparts her gentle attractions,
to stimulate and soothe reposing Nature.
Bound in the connubial ties of perpetual harmony,
she with alternate reign maintains his lasting dominion:
while walking round the earth
she duly returns to re-kindle her virtues near his station in the sky;
and, whether she follows or precedes his path,
prescribes the sacred seasons,
smiles on our festal days,
and aids in transfusing the all-animating spirit of the elements round the world.

When therefore, veil'd in sacred rites, the MYSTERIES of the ELEMENTS are solemnized;
and, crowned with holy symbols, the PONTIFF lifts his ROD to HEAVEN,
directing your view to that ETERNAL ORDER which regulates the whole;
Oft you have heard the sacred hymns, responsive to the instructive voice of Nature,
softened in recording the varied influence of the Lunar sphere,
and the aspiring halleluiah swell with exalted triumph:
When, bending towards the Rising Sun, we celebrate his unrivalled everlasting reign.

* * * * *

Soon as the soft music of the morning hymn is heard within,
and with the choral symphony the sanctuary rings,
let the seraphic sounds inspire an holy awe.
The harmony of the elements swells the sacred song;
the gates of light are opened; the fountains of living water are disclosed;
the ætherial fire is kindled;
the incense of our solemn adorations ascends before the throne;
and the holy anthem echoes from every trembling shrine.

* * * * *

HAIL! SPRING of LIGHT and DAY,
BRIGHT IMAGE of the SUPREME!
which quickens every element,
and gives them to spread the vital animation round.

Behold! the Altar raised,
to announce the diffusive blessings that beam from yon Solar Sphere,
receives our aspirations towards an INFLUENCE MORE INEFFABLY DIVINE;
and bears its awful record—

—O! INCOMPREHENSIBLE BEING!—to THEE!
Whose POWER hath hung that splendid Orb on high,
Whose WISDOM hath ordained its various virtues,
Whose GOODNESS gave reviving Nature to triumph in his rays.

* * * * *

While all the elements acknowledge the Sun
to be their Guardian, their Inspirer, and their Lord,
we accord in the universal harmony, and proclaim
the sovereign energies of that vital Fire!
Prime Agent of Heaven! the glory of creation!
by which its whole perfection and beauty is unfolded to our view.

But, O! how high—
how infinitely exalted o'er all created excellence,
how transcendently divine!

The INVISIBLE ATTRIBUTES of DEITY.

The Sun's brightest blaze of power, wherein most of goodness and of wisdom shines,
is but a feeble beam,

inadequate to express the incommunicable GLORIES of the MOST HIGH:

—They only can in silence be adored.—

That DIVINE AGENCY, which no eye can see,
no thought can comprehend,

it is our sublime aim, in the solemnities of the temple, to celebrate and explore.

BEAULIEU ABBEY.

THIS abbey seems to have derived its name from the beauty of the situation; and that name being of *French* extraction, yields a high probability that the ecclesiastics who first settled here were from that nation: for any annals that remain of the first establishments of Christianity in these parts are far from satisfactory or distinct. A small river of the same name winds down through the level tract of country which constituted the abbey lands; which still exhibit considerable luxuriance of soil, and are preserved in a well-advanced state of cultivation.

The river *Beaulieu* falls into an ample bay formed by the firth of *Moray*, about half way between INVERNESS and DINGWALL, the capital of ROSS-SHIRE. The prospect of the environs is equally magnificent and beautiful. The hills slope gradually down to the firth, and are finely cultivated to the water's edge. On the small promontories and peninsulated rocks, the old castles, the deserted strong-holds of the chieftains of early times, give a wild romantic air to the intervening improvements, decked with modern seats; while the smooth expanse of the firth, enlivened with the small vessels trading up and down, forms a noble contrast to the prospect of wild, majestic, rugged mountains, of stupendous height, which tower beyond and croud into the western sky.

The LEORNAMONACH, or Church Lands, lying along the banks of the *Beaulieu* river, form an extensive territory, devoted at different periods to support the institutions of the ABBEY, which flourished and were held in high veneration through great part of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries.

The annals of this part of *North Britain* scarce can be said to reach in any thing beyond the æra of the evangelical establishments: and the written memorials of these ages were only to be found among the records preserved in the monasteries and abbeys. The scanty materials to be gleaned from the remaining parchments are for the most part of too little importance to reward the toil of the research; they yield little more aid to historical remark than the half-obliterated inscriptions of the remaining tombs; which, though *once* intended to perpetuate the memory of the pious and virtuous deceased, who flourished there, yet *now*, in broken sentences, leave undistinguished the characters which they were designed to celebrate. On the dissolution of the Catholic institutions their records were scattered, lost, or destroyed; and, from a corresponding want of protection, the monumental memorials of their patrons and founders are fallen into irretrievable decay.—They only serve to shew, that the annals of the tomb are equally perishable and transient as the life of man.

This oblivion, into which at length the great and good must fall, strongly impresses on the mind the vanity of all terrestrial honours, and the fleeting nature of every mortal concern.

The human mind accords with momentous truths, though they are sad, and seems to rise in dignity, as solemn reflection detaches it from the world. This fate of the human kind, which we deplore, leaves not the mind in irremediable dejection.—In these mournful shades, where the ashes of the pious fathers are reposed, the mouldering lines still impart how far they had their consolation in retirement and in piety; and tell, that “These are the only permanent springs of joy, as the fashion of this world passeth away.

“Decaying monuments of saints and heroes are the clouds of other times; they give a transient solemnity to the recollection of past ages. The thought of these courts having often echoed with the glad *TE DEUMS* of thousands, who, along with their temple, are now mouldering into dust, deepens the veneration which these hallowed walls inspire*.”

The whole floor of the Abbey is crowded with tomb-stones of various ages, many of them, in all probability, nearly coeval with itself. The most ancient of these, from several particulars of their form and construction, appear to have been the lids of stone coffins; on each is a large cross, ornamented with various flowerings and symbols, swords, animals, and other emblems, of which the import is not easily defined. As there is not along with these any vestiges of letters, it is a tacit acknowledgment, that writing was little practised at the time when these monuments were carved; for, as many of them must have been cut under the eye, and by the direction of the clergy, and the *MONASTERIES* being in this country the first seats of learning, they certainly would have ordered some written inscription along with the symbols, had alphabetical writing been at that time generally understood.

The earliest inscriptions are in Saxon characters, dated in the end of the fourteenth and beginning of the fifteenth centuries: and are round the margin, commonly, of a figure in bas-relief, supposed to resemble the deceased. These are also lids of stone coffins, taken up from the vaults of the Abbey, and are both designed and sculptured in a style which shews that they were no mean artists who had been employed on them; but those more ancient ones on which the Cross is so variously figured, as the principal among many symbols, become a very interesting and curious subject of reflection. Before alphabetical writing was practised, we must suppose every sculptured symbol to have had important allusions; and they were generally of very sacred origin, as the long venerated memorials of those intellectual truths, which have ever been, at death, the most interesting concern of human life.

Some specimens of these, with an attempt to discover the channels by which their original design may be decyphered, their import recognized, and their derivation from primæval archetypes traced—offering some sources of contemplation not unavailing to the pleasures of reflection, while striving to penetrate the mysteries of remote antiquity—are annexed in the Essay accompanying the Plate of Ancient Monuments for this Number.

* *Antiquities and Scenery. Let. XI. to Mr. Pennant.*

J. M. W. Turner R.S.A.

W. M. W. Turner R.S.A.

BOYNE CASTLE.

THIS ancient residence of the family of *Findlater* is beautifully situated on the margin of a rocky mount, projecting into a deep glen, protected on the north-west by a lofty well wooded hill; the glen winds down for about a mile to the south, where it opens among the cliffs to the sea; and there are found the ruins of still more ancient towers, which had been occupied in former ages by the possessors of this demesne. The rivulet which runs through, and by its torrents has worn the glen, nearly encircles the mount on which the Castle is placed; a ditch and ramparts, as usual in these fortresses, defended the accessible side; where a bridge leading from the gateway is the narrow, and only pass, but easily protected path of communication with the rising grounds, which spread into the rich and fertile country that constituted the ancient forest of *Boyne*.

Such insulated situations, wherever found amid luxuriant lands, where by the occasional arrangement of rocks and rivulets a natural fortress was in a manner formed, became the necessary choice of the nobles, in those early ages of civilization, when the turbulent condition of society, and frequent dissensions of the state, made it often requisite to the peace of individual families, to defend the cause of right by force of arms. They who maintained the chief authority in the administration of this kind of military law, found it of the first importance to secure their parental residences, which were the courts of justice, from assault; so that every seat of the nobility in those ages, according to the extent of their sway, became a fortified palace, or castellated house.

The large estates, the rank, and power which this family so early held, gave them variety of choice of those strong situations wherein their numerous fortresses and towers were built; *Findlater* and *Deskford Castles*, *Cullen House*, and this of the *Boyne*, in *Banffshire*; *Auchindown*, *Castle Petre* in *Invernessshire*, and *Delvine Castle* in *Perthshire*, all bear their several testimonies to that extent of territory, over which their ancestors bore sway. *Cullen House* is now the only one of these remaining habitable, and is indeed become the luxurious seat of modern splendour, though the earl is at present engaged in planning out a still more superb and elegant residence.

The forest of *Boyne* had been inclosed by a wall, part of which remains, that separated the thanedom from the other estates. This, in the end of the fourteenth century, was configned to Sir *Walter Ogilvie*, a second son of the *Findlater* family; and continued in the possession of his descendants until the beginning of this century, when it was again annexed to the Earl's estate.

In Sir *Walter's* time a quarry of marble was opened among the adjacent rocks; it is rather dark and hard, but receives a bright polish, and is still wrought with some success: it was however in high estimation in the age of *Lewis XIV.* for that celebrated monarch

monarch had large quantities of it sent over to him, which was cut into various embellishments for the palace at *Versailles*, and that of *Trianon* (particularly the fine rows of columns at *Trianon*, and the architraves, chimney-pieces, &c. of the king's apartments at *Versailles* are finished with it). Near to *Portfoy* there are some very beautiful veins of it, extremely rich in colour—a pure white spread with variety of the brightest tints, with such infinite diversity of configuration, resembling plants and mosses, and such minute elegance, as to become subjects of microscopic entertainment.

Near the Castle a vein of copper ore was followed and wrought with some success: but, either through want of skill in the undertaker, or deficiency in the ore, the expence exceeding the returns, the work has ceased to be carried on, until more intelligent or more fortunate adventurers shall engage in it.

The orchards on either hand, that still abound with various fruit, and rows of aged trees, which shade the avenues leading to the Castle, and in decaying grandeur open the prospect of the falling towers, impress one with a sense of the early taste and opulence engaged in adorning the environs of these deserted walls. Within they exhibit the mouldering memorials of many historical paintings. In the largest tower, where the apartments seem to have been assigned to devotion and philosophy, the paintings have been preserved by a peculiar fortune. It appears from some dates that about a hundred years ago a new coat of plaister had been laid over the whole, probably when the zeal of reformation led them to obliterate every relic of the Catholic institutions; but now that coat of plaister is dropping off, and discloses faints and prelates portrayed on the walls, and in departments between them many parts of the History of the New Testament designed. Figures also in devotional attitudes, with emphatic scrolls, in Saxon characters, “*sursum corda, sic itur ad astra*,” &c. But what is perhaps still more remarkable, the adjoining apartment is no less full of encomiums on divine philosophy than that is of expressions of evangelical piety.

One female figure, in particular, appears intent on the cœlestial sphere, in deep meditation; while an Apollo, pointing to the heavens, seems to teach its application. The one of these apartments had doubtless been the chapel of the Castle, or devotional retirement, the other perhaps the school of erudition, where the youth were tutored in the paths of philosophy and knowledge.

Behind the ruins, a grove of well-grown timber waves over the cliffs, and deepens the shades which fall from the precipices of the glen, the windings of which yield many a sweet retirement. The variety of flowering shrubs and plants that grow wild along the banks of the rivulet, amid the picturesque and rugged rocks that bound its course, add to the silent amusements of the solitary hour, which occasional visitors may there enjoy, if possessed of taste enough to take pleasure in admiring the casual arrangements of uncultivated nature, which constitute so large a share of the inexplicable charm, which captivates the heart amid romantic scenery.

3 May 1891

C. Cardwell Jones

Of the CROSS inscribed on ANCIENT MONUMENTS.

SEVERAL of the CALEDONIAN OBELISKS, with the CROSS richly carved, and ornamented with various flowerings and mathematical figures, have, on former occasions, been engraved in these Plates. The present assemblage of them is made with a view to exhibit the various forms, which in different provinces they assume, and to suggest the probability of the archetypes from whence they have been derived.

The very peculiar style of the embellishments on some, and ornaments so foreign to the Cross of JERUSALEM on others, suggests the idea of some sources of imitation not yet traced; and that fancy *alone* had not prescribed the lines apparently so fantastic by which they are distinguished.

'Twere easy at once to say, the Cross, as on these Monuments, so unsuitably diversified and adorned, must have been the visionary work of a rude illiterate age, without meaning and without importance, and may therefore be left to unnoticed decay: but in the very elaborate execution of these, although perhaps by ill-informed artists, there are some such striking peculiarities of design, as it would not be becoming of a zealous antiquarian to pass over, without some comparison with similar works of other countries.

I. The correspondence of design in the disposition of the circles on the Cross of the erect Obelisk A, and the one adjacent marked ILLYRICA, are very remarkable, if a matter of chance; but admit of an easy solution, if specimens of the latter, on parchment, found their way with the first Christian pastors to IONA, and to *North Britain*. Artists in *North Britain*, not understanding the nature of the mystic characters inscribed in the circles, readily substituted mathematical ones in their room. The instance of the original kinds, here produced, is one of those which superstition found, in the early ages of Christianity, on the borders of the ROMAN EMPIRE; and contains in the circles connected arrangements of the alphabetical characters used in that territory, which was the ancient ILLYRICUM*; and, from the best translation that can be had of them, they celebrated the salutary influences of the CROSS, in terms that are equally consistent with the then prevailing spirit of Christian devotion, as with some peculiar tenets of the ancient religion of *Egypt*.

But the parchments thus inscribed, at the dawn of the revival of literature, were held in great veneration, as including the rudiments of evangelical doctrine; and paved the way, therefore, for such embellishments of the Cross as we find engraven on the *Caledonian* Obelisks.

II. Some of the *Caledonian* Crosses are so involved in circles, as to put on a very different character, and retain not dubious vestiges of these marks and lines, which were, as on some of the ancient Abraxas, the first rude memorials of the disposition of the planetary system. That marked B, which lies near the Abbey of BEAULIEU, in *Ross-shire*,

* *Oedipus. Ægypt. tom. III. p. 39.*

more especially corresponds in design with the sculptures on the huge stone mentioned by BOETIUS, which stands by the way side at ABERLEMNI, in *Angus*, and is represented in the XVIIth Plate of the Second Part of Mr. PENNANT'S Tour in Scotland.

In a conjectural investigation it may be less exceptionable to refer to N^o I. of that Plate, than to the delineation at B of the present one; because there will be no suspicion that the artist employed by Mr. PENNANT made his drawing to serve any hypothesis, but merely to express, as far as possible, the carvings which he saw on the stone.

Such caution is rendered requisite, in this age of infidelity, when SOME of the more respectable characters of the Royal Society have been kind enough to mention, "That the symbolical figures on some of these Plates were curious enough, but THEY could not believe there were any such sculptures on the monuments of NORTH BRITAIN as there described."

In the figure of the stone at *Aberlemni**, it is observable that the SUN is represented in the center; and small circles, which may have referred to the MOON in her several phases, though not accurately marked, occupy the next sphere; and the outer circle is divided into twelve places, which retain some distant vestiges of the early and rude manner of specifying the divisions of the ZODIAC. However remote and ambiguous some of these allusions may seem to be, they correspond with the general tenor of the rudiments of early piety and knowledge, as expressed on the most ancient monuments, of the dawning philosophy of several *European* nations.

The DRUIDICAL system of divinity included much regard to the planetary movements; the seasons depending on the apparent revolutions of the sun, and the days of festal devotion being regulated by the several phases of the moon, made marks and signs of their periodical return of first consequence in their ritual; which were not wholly done away for some time after the institutions of Christianity began to take place; we therefore need not be surprized to find vestiges of these blended on the *Caledonian* Obelisks with more evangelical symbols; for these carved stones are not more numerous than are the Druidical circles, called their temples, near to which they are frequently found.

III. There is another source of archetypes that may be examined. Some of the Crosses, sculptured on stones that lie adjacent to the oldest abbies, branch out into many points, and are often included and traversed by several concentric circles: any one who will take the trouble of comparing them with the CABALISTICAL WHEELS of *divination*, made so much a mystery of by the JEWISH RABBIES, will not fail to be surprized at the resemblance†. Amid the enigmatical arrangements of lines and angles, THEY inscribed the names of angels, representing the several powers of nature acting according to the several more powerful configurations of the WORD of יהוה. And as it was

* Tour in *Scotl.* II. p. 166.

† See *Oedipus. Ægypt.* tom. II. p. 480. 491. figures of the above, resembling that at C, on a stone with several other similar ones, lying near to a ruined chapel at *Dingwall, Ross-shire*.

customary to communicate the interpretation of these in the solemnity of secret rites, the pieces of parchment thus inscribed, and given to the initiated, were held in great esteem. At a time when every thing that came from the HOLY LAND was venerated, and erudition was in its infancy again, the above became in high repute, and were carried along by those commissioned to spread the evangelical communications, as relics of the hidden wisdom of the HEBREWS: and thus, as fraught with some sacred mysteries, were sculptured on the earliest monuments of Christianity that are found in this country. But the EGYPTIAN CROSS, D, is the earliest of all; and perhaps contains in it the archetypes of all the other *ornamental* Crosses, which were so much prized in the first ages of Christianity. This was a primæval symbol of the elementary influences, as depending for their several energies on the revolution of the heavenly bodies; and therefore the Cross, on the extremities of which the elements were hieroglyphically expressed, is crowned above with rudiments of the planetary system, included in a circle allusive to the starry firmament, and zodiacal constellations that regulated the year. This order is the Choral Hymn of Heaven, that proclaims the infinite wisdom of the Great Ruler. The epitome of the Cross, I, was therefore the chosen symbol of the divine influence and power extended through the universe. 'Twas impressed as a leading character on the sacred columns, and on the altars of devotion. In the hallowed rites of the sanctuary, it was worn over the brow as a diadem of holiness; and placed on the breast as a gem that sanctified the heart; and carried in the hand of those personages represented as emblems of the most exalted piety. These are frequent on the obelisks at Rome, and in the ISIAIC TABLE*, where many symbolical figures, paying devout attention to symbols of the DEITY, are represented as having taken up a Cross, and are bearing it in their hands.

During our Saviour's ministry, in the early part of it, when as yet the import of HIS Cross could not be known to those to whom He was imparting His sacred doctrines, yet it is observable that HE proceeds in His holy admonitions on the evident persuasion that the PEOPLE OF JUDEA at that time understood the CROSS to be a symbol of sincerest devotion of soul. Unto the youth whom JESUS loved, and who made the solemn enquiry, "What shall I do to inherit eternal life?" part of the hallowed reply was, "Take up thy Cross and follow ME." And to His disciples in general, "Whosoever loveth father or mother more than ME, is not worthy of ME; and whosoever taketh up his Cross, and followeth ME, is not worthy of ME. If any one will do the will of HIM that sent me, let him take up his Cross, and follow ME †."

This perhaps may account for the so frequent mention of the sacred influence of the Cross in Oriental writings, previous to the æras in which the evangelical communications reached them.

* See *Mensa Isiaca*, *Oedip. Aegypt.* tom. III.

† *Matt.* x. 38. xvi. 24. *Mark* viii. 34. x. 21. *Luke* ix. 23. xiv. 27.

In a COPTIC Ritual, preserved in the library of the Vatican at Rome, among other directions for the administration of the sacred rites, the following is one:—"After the sounding of the trumpet thrice, the priest shall walk round the altar, with the censer of incense in his hand; and taking the holy oil, shall mark the four corners of the altar with the sign of the Cross *."

In that valuable monument of the sacred history of *China*, sculptured in the sacerdotal characters, held in such lasting veneration by the learned of that country, (copies of which, with translations, some centuries ago, were brought to Rome †, and justly admired as a momentous memorial of their sacred tenets) there are two passages which may claim our notice here, on account of the singularity of the sublime ideas, which are there connected with the sign of the Cross. The first is in the history of the Creation:—

"THE MOST HOLY gave forth the sacred SIGN, the SIGN of the CROSS, that harmonized the Universe:—the elements in union surrounded the earth—the revolutions of the sun and moon commenced—light and darkness held alternate reign—day and night began."

The other is in the sixth column, where mention is made of the happy effect of some religious institutions:—

"Thus the records of Divine Truth were made known: by them the door of heavenly light and love was opened; the sign of the Cross prevailed, and united by its influence the whole empire of SINA in one general bond of amity."

This last has so much the spirit of a just eulogium on the influence of Christianity to inspire universal benignity of heart, that it was claimed by the SOCIETY OF JESUS as evangelical; and imparted to the priests of the *Indian* empire by the early successors of the Apostles: and indeed otherwise would have been altogether inexplicable, but from the revival of those elevated principles of piety and regard to the Divine dominion, of which the Cross from the beginning was the sacred symbol.

* Obelisc. *Pamphil.* 487.

† Kercher, *China Illustrata.*

John H. Engell, Esq.

YUCCA FILIFOLIA

Published at the direction of the U.S. Army, by the U.S. Army Medical Department, No. 1, Dr. H. H. Engell, Esq., U.S. Army.

1864

PENNATULA, SEA PEN.

THE Oriental PENNATULA, or SILVER SEA PEN, of which there is a specimen in the BRITISH MUSEUM, brought from *Batavia*, has so much the general appearance and size of a large quill, or writing pen, as from that circumstance to have given a general name to all the animals of the kind, though many of them have little or no resemblance to that idea. The comely swell of body which that represented in the Plate displays, and the luxuriant spread of living plumage wherewith it is feathered over, presents us with such an elegant combination of beautiful forms, as cannot be adequately described by any likeness to either a feather or a flower. The great variety of the different species of these animals is as yet indefinite, and may continue so for ages, as the deep still teems with undescribed productions.

MR. ELLIS collected, from different quarters of the world, at least a dozen kinds, Plates of which were engraved for the PHILOSOPHICAL TRANSACTIONS; and they are arranged and described in his History of Zoophytes. The general definitions there given of this genus of animals, involving a more general knowledge of their nature than could perhaps be drawn from any individual, afford the following extracts; which may inform those that are unacquainted with longer works on the subject of the character attained by these FLOATING SYSTEMS OF LUMINOUS FLOWERS.

“ They differ remarkably from all other Zoophytes, by swimming freely about in the sea, and having a muscular motion as they swim along. They are of many shapes, having in general a fleshy stem, with a bone in the inside to support it. They send forth branches from the stem, terminating in polype-like mouths surrounded by claws. The lower part of the stem is bare; but it does not appear that any of them fix themselves by their base, as do the ACTINEA; for they have no opening at the bottom, as was formerly thought, nor any other passage, but through their polype mouths; by these they take in their food, and through these they produce their eggs.

“ They have the remarkable property of sending forth a strong phosphorial light in the sea. Dr. SHAW observes, that on the coast of *Algiers* they illumine the deep with so great a light in the night, that the fishermen can distinguish the fish, as they swim, by it, so as to know where to cast their nets.

“ The *British* Sea Pen is of a bright red colour, and possesses the same quality of shining in the dark. These are found near many of the coasts of this kingdom, adhering to the baits on the fishermen’s lines, especially when they make use of muscles to bait their hooks. Numbers have been taken on the coast of SCOTLAND, more particularly near to ABERDEEN and BANFF.”

The kind represented by the drawing of the Plate is a very small species, seldom exceeding two inches in length, or more commonly of the size of fig. a. They inhabit the deep; never are found near the coast. The drawing was made while the animal was in full health, floating about in its native element; and, while it waves along imbibing the virtues of the tide, the spreading tentacula assumes variety of beautiful expression, but faintly shewn by the representation A. The extremities of the ramifications which form its tentacula are exquisitely fine, and unfold like so many active flowers, to gather and inhale its nourishment. The more usual appearance these put on, which was always varying with their movements, is exhibited by the magnified specimens at b. B.

Whether this be of another species, or only differing from resembling ones, from the healthful and lively state of the animal when the drawing was made, it is not perhaps easy to discriminate with precision: but every such instance may convey to us some new idea of that vast variety of productions, which flourish with life and beauty in the depths of the ocean, and cannot fail to excite some surprise at the scheme of replenishing that unseen realm with such profusion of ornamental existences.

The great design of so extensive a scene of wonder, which there are no rational spectators to survey, must remain to us in a great measure inscrutable; but the various elegance, use, and beauty, of every several form of life, as it occurs to view when brought by human ingenuity from their profound abodes; as these still afford us new ideas of the infinite diversity of animated being, it enlarges the sphere of our admiration, and opens a boundless prospect of the entertainments that may be still in store, from a more studious investigation of the submarine regions.

DUNROBIN CASTLE.

THIS, the ancient seat of the Earls of SUTHERLAND, had been strong and defensible; it is situated on a rising ground on the banks of the Firth of DORNOCH, which gave it considerable command as a fortress: at the same time it has such beauty of situation, as might have been the choice of taste, on account of the extensive prospects and variety of ground; as well as the consultation of safety, on account of the declivities of the hill, rendered inaccessible by ditches and ramparts, and the wide view of the surrounding country thus gained by the height of the tower placed on its summit.

The extensive plantations of the demesne, enrich the prospect of the mount on which the Castle stands, and give the place a considerable variety of picturesque beauty. The present *Countess* of SUTHERLAND, ere LADY GOWER, had ordered the Castle to be fitted up with a degree of elegance and splendor suited to the residence of a Noble Family; and the walks amid the adjacent plantations and shrubberies, now spreading their flowery luxuriance and softer beauties down to the edge of the sea, are laid out with a very great degree of taste, for which the variety of ground, and of charming prospects, afford an ample scope. The western hills beyond are lofty, and form a noble boundary to the cultivated fields which spread along the coast. On the opposite side of the Firth, the rich lands of ROSS-SHIRE, stretching out to TARBET NESS, and far into the main, present a pleasing distance, and finely vary the too uniform line of the horizon, which the prospect of the ocean unconfined would else have formed.

A large part of the Castle is as old as the reign of *Alexander I.* Cir. anno 1100, an EARL of that early period fortified the place, built some of the towers, and constituted DUNROBIN the family residence. *ALANE Thane of Sutherland*, who flourished in the former century, is the first on record in the volumes of heraldry, and in the earliest annals of *Caledonian* story. His fame was established by a memorable defeat of the *Danes*, accomplished by forces under his command. A body of those *Scandinavian adventurers*, who had made frequent settlements on the coasts of CAITHNESS, and at the BURGH HEAD of MORAY, landed anno 1031, with a view of occupying the banks of the Firth of DORNOCH: but the THANE, after some time spent in collecting and disciplining his men, came down on the invaders, and, after an obstinate fight, drove them in confusion into the sea, and to their vessels: during his life-time, no other attempt of the kind was made on these coasts. Some stones, with very ancient sculptures on them, that stand at *Drumelca*, and not far from *Creigh*, are said to have been erected on the field, and in memory of the above victory, and of the warriors who fell in fighting for their country there.

Although the above be the first Thane of SUTHERLAND mentioned in SCOTCH annals, or books of heraldry*, yet the warlike achievements and memorable events in the lives of several, who lived long previous to that æra, are mentioned by

* Douglass's Peerage.

TORPHEUS*: but our biographers do not seem to have ever consulted that celebrated history.

A sculptured monumental stone, which is still found standing on the way side, on a sandy plain, at a little distance from the town of DORNOCH, the capital of *Sutherland*, is said to have been erected in memory of another defeat of *Scandinavian* bands, which had landed in those parts, in the thirteenth century: but there are no carvings on it, which can with any probability have reference to such an event. By its being called THANES CROSS, and having on one side the arms or armorial ensign of SUTHERLAND, and on the other that of *Caithness*, it has probably been raised to mark some settled boundary, or in memory of some agreement between the Earls of these adjoining counties. But, like many of the more ancient monumental stones of NORTH BRITAIN, having been raised before the æra in which written annals of events were kept, the traditions concerning them are often vague and indeterminate, and have reference to later ages than those to which they certainly belong.

Mr. PENNANT has particularly mentioned the remains of *Carn Lea*, or the Grey Tower, now nearly levelled with the ground, which lie near the coast, a little beyond DUNROBIN: among the inland hills, there are very entire specimens of the same kind of buildings; the very ancient architecture of the *Piñs*. That they had been the residences of the chieftains, there seems no kind of doubt; they are always found situated as commanding the finest pastures and the richest vallies. But the unfrequented and rugged paths that lead to them, over the bleak ridges of the hills, and through the intricate windings of rocky glens, are much against travellers in general being indulged with a view of these remarkable ruins. Perhaps few of those who have visited the pleasant environs of DUNROBIN, have ever had courage to venture so far among the mountains, as to see the stately remains of these primæval towers; which without cement, or any apparent aid from metals, have been so firmly constructed, as to have stood the ravage of at least a thousand years.

One of the most accessible, stands on a rocky mount, a little beyond the western end of LOCH BRORA, which itself, with its majestic boundaries, affords variety of picturesque scenery. That tower † is so free of rubbish, that one without stooping can enter by the inner doors, to the apartments within the walls; and several of the staircases to the second story are perfectly entire. The river tumbles round it, in a number of irregular cascades; its precipitous banks are full of fossil shells; many of them of kinds not now found on the shores. The more curious specimens are most frequently found in working the limestone quarry above the town of Brora. These circumstances may enliven reflection, and give additional amusement to the way, on an excursion by Carril to the *Piñish* tower at ACHIR-NA-KYLE, if any should go to visit it from DUNROBIN.

* See Antiquities and Scenery. Extracts from *Torpheus*, p. 135, &c. anno 940, &c.

Thormodus Torpheus, appointed by CHRISTIAN V. historian for the kingdom of Norway.—His-
toriographers were regularly appointed by that crown to reside in the island of *Floa*, to narrate such
transactions as occurred in the *Orcaes*, and in the North of SCOTLAND. And from these records,
Torpheus was furnished with those materials of his work, which relate to characters who flourished in
the northern counties of *Caledonia*.

† Antiquities and Scenery, p. 74.

J. G. M. S. S. S.

C. C. S. S. S.

KINEDYNE or KINEDARD CASTLE.

THE rivulet that winds through the rich plantations of CRAIGSTON CASTLE, and there reflects the polished beauties of its well-cultivated banks, falls afterwards down into a precipitous and rocky glen, in the various windings of which, there are several of these peninsulated situations, in which the chieftains and nobles of early ages found it expedient to build their towers. On one of the most inaccessible and secure of these natural fortresses, the ruins of KINEDYNE CASTLE stand; the rivulet afterwards watering some excellent pasture grounds, becomes bounded again by romantic precipices, and falls into the DOVERN near to the old house of *Eden*, a few miles from BANFF.

The vestiges of walls, and of several buildings, adjacent to the principal tower, that had afforded the various accommodations which its possessors required, are spread out to the verge of the precipices, and encircle the whole of the rocky mount on which the Castle stands. The mount joins to the neighbouring fields by a narrow neck of land, on which, as the remains of the pillars insinuate, and as was usual in these fortresses, a draw-bridge had been placed; and the precipitous rock rendered it inaccessible on every other side; so that the situation is well calculated for a place of defence: but the view of it in the plate, will afford a distincter idea of that, than perhaps any written description can convey.

The demesne of the Castle is now annexed to the estate of *William Urquhart*, esquire, of *Craigston*. His family residence is a castellated house, more beautifully situated in a fine open valley, a few miles above; and has a noble effect among the picturesque grounds which enclose it. The central tower has been carefully preserved, and retains all its gothic grandeur; peculiarly remarkable in the superb entablature, richly carved, which surrounds it at the top; between the columns of a kind of balustrade, several figures of warriors, trumpeters, &c. are sculptured, as overlooking and protecting the gateway which opens beneath. The baronial hall still retains several of its warlike embellishments carved on the wainscot, among which king *Robert Bruce* and *Scanderbeg*, *Cæsar* and *Alexander*, are specified by name.

Some good paintings however, from scripture history, &c. soften the effect of the rude sculptures, and change the tide of reflection from these men of the sword.

'Twas here Mr. PENNANT met with that enchantment, which he had not forgot when he reached the fairy ground at FORRES.

The hospitality of early ages, in its most favourable forms, heightened with all the taste and gaiety which acquaintance with the polite world confers, seem studied with a no less successful care, than that which has so dexterously converted the ample apartments of the ancient building into the elegant accommodations of a modern seat.

It does not seem to be on written record, by whom *Kinedard Castle* was built. The popular tradition of its having been one of king *Edward's* fortresses, seems to have originated only from similarity of sound. The earliest, and almost the only annals

extant of these territories, are to be drawn from the Chartularies and other ecclesiastical records. The first mention of the above castle is, when the tythes of the adjacent lands are devoted, by ALEXANDER CUMMING, earl of BUCHAN, to the prebendary of TURIFF: a charter of his, dated anno 1272*, consigning ample territories in these parts to pious and charitable uses, expresses at the same time the wild and sublime tenour of that devotional spirit, which in that age breathed fervent as it was sincere.

“ Be it known in the general communion of the faithful, and to all the members of the holy church; to whom be endless joy in the Lord!—that, in concert with the right reverend *Hugh de Bentrym*, by the grace of God, bishop of *Aberdeen*, and by the counsel and concurrence of the other venerable fathers, and bishops of the church in *Scotland*—That, full of the spirit of divine love and charity, zealous for the interests of the faith, and the comfort of the indigent:

“ To the glory of the Most High God, and in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary; and for the good of the souls of our illustrious king *Alexander* and his royal successors; and that prayers may be made for my own soul, and for the souls of all my successors,”—&c. &c.

He specifies, as is usual, at great length, the boundaries of the lands appointed to the maintenance of a rector, six chaplains, and to support continually thirteen of the most deserving husbandmen, whom age or infirmities had rendered incapable of earning a livelihood.

King ROBERT BRUCE, anno 1328, the twenty-third of his reign, consigned additional lands to the above religious institution and hospital, in order that certain masses might be said for the soul of his brother NIGELLE, who fell in that neighbourhood.

The buildings requisite for these religious appointments, rising near to the military tower and fortress that was at TURIFF, and proving inducements to a number of additional settlers to have their dwellings there, the spreading village was constituted a *burgh of barony* by king JAMES IV. In a deed, of which the *earl of Errol*, and the *archbishop of St. Andrew's*, are witnesses, the king assigns, for the reason of sewing out these lands, and building a town there, “ That it may be for the better accommodation and entertainment of his subjects, who shall have occasion to sojourn in that quarter:” and the bishop and chapter of *Aberdeen*, in a charter confirmative of the above, specify the additional considerations that made the royal edict meet with their concurrence and approbation: “ That the building of the borough might increase the ecclesiastical revenue, would be more especially for the benefit of the prebend and clergy of the place, and so administer to the good of the CHURCH, and the praise of its great
“ AUTHOR.”

* Signed at his castle, and with his seal, in presence of his brother the earl of MAR, and other illustrious personages. The extracts are translated from a copy in Mr. URQUHART's possession; as is that of K. Robert Bruce's charter, of which his chancellor, Lord Marischal, and other lords and knights of his household, are the witnesses.

C. cordata pax

J. M. G. Smith

ASTERIAS ARBORESCENS.

ASTERIAS ARBORESCENS.

THIS singular animal, distinguished by the title of the ARBORESCENT STAR, is specified in the BRITISH ZOOLOGY; "AST. with five rays issuing from an angular body; the rays dividing into innumerable branches, growing slenderer as they recede from the base: the most curious of the genus." Mr. PENNANT had been told of their being found in the north of SCOTLAND, but not receiving any specimens of them, it is not figured in his valuable work. DOCTOR BORLASE has mentioned that this kind of Star had been sometimes taken off *Cornwall*; but it would not appear that he ever had any of them in his possession, else he certainly would have given a representation of it, as exceedingly more remarkable than many others, the forms of which he has given in his plates. It was therefore judged probable, that it would not be unacceptable to those who delight in perusing the variety of life, presented in the delineations of natural history, to have a drawing of the above beautiful animal engraved here; especially as it seems to have escaped also the researches of the late Mr. ELLIS, who was so indefatigable in prying, by every possible means, into the secret recesses of the deep.

A circumstance which has not been much attended to, is probably the cause of their being seldom or never dredged up with other Stars, and gives us the reason of its being so difficult a thing to find them entire; and indeed so rare to fall in with them at all.

Contrary to the usual mode of existence which Stars enjoy, they in general being unconfined and free, this species has a fixed residence on the rocks at the bottom of the deep. They are formed beneath like the base of the ANIMAL FLOWERS, so that they adhere to their place of abode with a power which cannot be overcome but by their destruction. The address requisite in disengaging an *animal flower*, which may be found nearly dry at the time of ebb, cannot be applied in deep water, unless one were to go down in a diving bell, which is not likely to be engaged on such an errand. It can only therefore be owing to some particular circumstance of health or situation, that may incline them to be easily moved; or to some very fortunate cast, if at any time the ASTERIAS ARBORESCENS is brought up in dredging; or perhaps it is only when the piece of rock or stone to which they adhere, having coral on it, gets entangled in the net or dredge, and comes along with its adherents, that they are found; at least it was owing to that circumstance that the Star was obtained from whence the drawing of the plate was made.

WILLIAM LESSLIE, Esq; of *Donlugas*, a gentleman who is proprietor of some islands on the coast of NORWAY, from whence extensive fisheries are carried on, has been very assiduous and attentive in collecting varieties of the corals and other marine productions that are found on these coasts; and has been so good as to favour the author of this work with many curious specimens. Several of the corals are of the same individual kinds with those from INDIA and the *Mediterranean* seas, which are represented by Mr. ELLIS in his history of *Zoophytes*; and some of them are of a kind essentially

essentially distinct from either. The very entire and beautiful specimen of the Star now under consideration, was brought over with the above, and is in a complete state of preservation. It is so much so, indeed, that its spreading rays, or tentacula, diverge and extend to a degree of inimitable fineness; curling like the tendrils of the vine, they branch out into fibres so exceedingly numerous and small, as scarcely can admit of any perfect representation. Were it attempted fully to express the number and minuteness of the extremities of these once animated threads, it would unavoidably perplex the drawing and mar its effect, and after all, perhaps, give no adequate idea of the subject. But the representation of the plate, though necessarily deficient in the number and smallness of the extremities of the fibres, yet is perfectly sufficient to give a distinct idea of the nature and form of this singular animal.

It being the appointment of NATURE that this Star should have a fixed residence, it therefore does not travel about in search of food, as do others of the genus, but quietly lies in wait for its prey; it is therefore endowed with this so ample spread of sensitive fibres, to give it a larger sphere of water within its grasp, and by that means multiply its chances of obtaining such articles as may supply it with adequate nourishment. By means of these long slender filaments, which are its tentacula, an animal the size of that in the plate (which is nearly the size of the one from which it was copied) in its full expanded state, will diffuse itself through a circle of water several feet diameter: and it is not only the extremities of the rays by which it can lay hold on little fishes, or any nutrimental atoms floating by; but all along the edges of these branching fibres, there are double rows of short thick-set bristles, hirsute on the sides, by which means every part of every ray has an adhesive quality, that is capable of detaining any soft substance, until, by the application of the extremities of the tentacula, it is brought into the central mouth; and thus are its legion of arms perpetually engaged in administering to the common receptacle of nourishment which sustains the complicated system.

The wonderful sense and penetration that pervades those living fibres, and endows every part of each with capacities of discernment, so essential to the preservation and flourishing state of the whole, resolves into the phenomena of that inscrutable wisdom which informs all animated being; and of which the authors of language have helped us to evade the solution, by substituting in its place the comprehensive expression of instinct.

The idea of creative beauty, disclosing its marvellous energies in those unseen regions of the deep so far removed from the human eye, leaves such impressions of that universal influence, so apparently displayed, yet felt so incomprehensible, as baffles all conjecture of the system's origin and end. We need not therefore wonder, that the greatest philosophers in every age have been confessedly bewildered and lost in mystery, when seeking to discover the unattainable SECRET of the universe.

C. ordnerpine

Blatt 100

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SYMBOLS of the *PASSION*.

IT is evident that the admirers and publishers of Christianity in the early ages, especially those engaged in the illumination and embellishment of the sacred books and parchments, had been deeply impressed with the hieroglyphical splendor in which the ancient communications had been conveyed. A veneration was long retained for those symbols, which preserved a mysterious remembrance of primæval traditions. They seem to have perceived, "That they were memorials of sacred truths; had their origin from the prophetic books, or more ancient insignia of patriarchal records: that, coming forward in such a hallowed channel, and being preserved from time immemorial as divine, they might involve allusions to evangelical truth; and therefore, with pious appropriation, they applied them to illustrate the mysteries of the Christian faith:" and by this means we find them adopted on various monuments of the doctrine of the Catholic church.

"A roll of a book," a piece of parchment of considerable length, beautifully illuminated with splendid colours, and with burnished gold, exhibiting a copious arrangement of the Symbols of the Passion, was lately discovered in a long-neglected coffer in MORAY. Opposite to each Symbol, there is an address to the Deity; a verse of its application to the improvement of the heart, and specifying those peculiar sentiments of piety, which the corresponding image should inspire.

The verses are in the Saxon character, accurately formed; the emphatical words embellished with gold and silver. Whether it may have been the expensive appendage of private devotion, or prepared for a place in the archives of the cathedral; it well merits the care of the Antiquarian Society, who have obtained possession of it.

'Twas only mentioned here to give some additional idea of the sacred importance in which these religious Symbols were held, that are found accompanying the Cross, in the embellishments of Abbeys, &c. and are now to come under our consideration.

The chapter-house of the cathedral church at *Elgin*, is an elegant octagon, of about forty feet diameter, and equally high; the roof forms an ample dome, supported in the center by a noble column, the capital of which is richly sculptured with variety of emblematical devices; on each of the eight sides of that uncommon chapter, there is a shield represented, which contains the emblems; and on two of these shields, the SYMBOLS of the PASSION, as expressed by the plate, are sculptured.

On the perusal of these, they will probably seem so far from unusual, and their reference in general so apparent, as to require no very particular or elaborate discussion of their import: any more obvious application, often equally satisfies the peasant and divine; to dive into the records of antiquity for the primæval allusions of the sacred insignia of the CROSS of JESUS, to many seems equally unprofitable and daring.

But if, on examining these with the candid eye of liberal research into the annals of antiquity, they shall be found to be memorials of things divine, previous to the æra of the crucifixion, then will the wonderful evidences come in view, that those sacred symbols, venerated from the earliest ages, were no less prophetic, than they are now commemorative of that great event. From hence a light of the divinity of the GOSPEL may arise, to astonish the world with its renewed splendor.

This is not the place to enter on a formal treatise of the original derivation and meaning

meaning of the Oriental Symbols; it is an interesting enquiry reserved for another work, and is doubtless one great key to the knowledge of antiquity.

But one thing it is necessary to premise, which ought always to be had in remembrance, when discoursing of hieroglyphics and symbols; "That in the primæval æra when they were adopted as the means of communicating knowledge, it is evident, the amazing discovery of alphabetical writing had not been made. Symbols, therefore, were the signs fixed on by the first sages and instructors of the human race, to express visibly the conceptions of the mind. Each was the memorial of a certain truth, and of the ideas connected with its establishment." And it is scarce possible to conceive, by what other effectual method they could have imparted their knowledge, and given remembrancers of it; or how else they could have left monuments of their discoveries, and of their wisdom, to future ages.

The illustration of ancient symbols, no doubt, so far involves many remote allusions, to which we are but little accustomed; and so much refers to a system of communication, now in a great measure become obsolete, that the minds of readers in general may not be formed to have adequate apprehensions of their nature and importance; and even the more learned and intelligent have been disposed to overlook their sacred moment, and to consider them rather as a species of venerable allusions, than as the genuine ELEMENTS OF DIVINE KNOWLEDGE.

Language and metaphors, and the symbols from whence they are derived, once applied to sacred purposes, become in some measure entitled to a lasting respect. The EVANGELISTS, and other SACRED WRITERS, in many instances avowedly adopt the phraseologies and allusions venerated in the Gentile world, to whom they addressed the GOSPEL of JESUS, as the most effectual means of giving energy to their holy doctrines. References also to the primæval symbols occur, apparently with the same influence and design, especially in the writings of ST. JOHN. * "I WILL MAKE HIM A PILLAR IN THE TEMPLE OF GOD, AND WRITE UPON HIM MY NEW NAME," is interesting language in any age; but would be exceedingly more expressive to those initiated in the ancient mysteries, as they to whom the evangelical writings were addressed had in general been. The columns of the primæval sanctuaries were inscribed with symbols of the DEITY, and of the attributes of that SACRED NAME, which they dared not to pronounce but in the hour of solemn invocation.

When a devout sense of Divine Providence (of whose reign this sacred column contained the hallowed record) was imprinted on the mind of man, he in some measure reflected the glory of that light which was imparted to him: he was filled with the knowledge of God; his name was written in his heart. This was the last great step of those religious initiations so venerated of old. 'Twas only in awful solemnities that any could approach the sanctuary, where these high communications were given in secret; the ministers of the temple interpreting the symbols of the sacred columns, opened the light of heaven, and those mysteries of divinity which they involved. They kneeled before the most holy One, and revered IT, as in some measure the visible representation of the invisible attributes and government of God.

This column or pillar of the temple, therefore, became a devotional emblem and suitable accompaniment to the Cross of Jesus; as at once allusive to the virtual fulfil-

ment of the prophetic types and symbols in him; and as characteristic of the person who was "the manifest reflection of his Father's glory, and express image of his "perfections."

It has, indeed, been usual to consider the pillar, which is often so conspicuously inserted among the appendages of the Cross, as the memorial of one to which JESUS was bound; but, as there is no mention made of that circumstance by the Evangelists, the truth is probably discovered in looking to this higher origin of its application; and we may hence perceive that it was with suitable dignity introduced by the Fathers, among the most venerable symbols of their faith.

On the opposite side of the Cross, there is sculptured a representation of a garment, alluding to HIS VESTURE for which the lots were cast; and this derives its importance from the record, "that his coat was without seam, woven from the top throughout;" and the not rending it, but preserving it entire, became a fulfilment of some of those mysterious circumstances relating to the MESSIAH, venerated by ancient prophecy.

But the evangelical application of "HIS VESTURE's *being without seam*," derived an essential importance from a metaphor of a respectable nature in the eastern world. The complete harmony of the sacred oracles; the invariable connection of the truths imparted by them; the unity of design conspicuous in the divine communications, which ST. CYRIL calls, "the uninterrupted theology delivered by the *seraphim*, or *symbols*;" the doctrines of GOD, handed down from primæval æras, forming one uniform whole; was implied and represented by the symbolical language, and by the symbol of a *coat without seam*; it became HIM, therefore, whose doctrine was the fulfilment of the law and the prophets, to be thus clothed; and that vesture is recorded as his distinguishing garment.

The *mythic* HAMMER is inserted immediately under the pillar.

This assuming the so venerated form of the Cross *, was, in the œconomy of primæval rites, a necessary appendage of peculiar processions, and a respected instrument of religious ceremonies; it was at once the KEY of the sanctuary, and the consecrated KNOCKER †, which in appropriate numbers announced the approach of the Pontiff and his train, when the rites of the day required access to the penetralia of the sacred fanes; its hallowed application was therefore to the unfolding of those doors, within which the most sublime doctrines of the Divinity were reserved to be disclosed. Need we then be surprised at the evangelical adoption of this symbol, as having an ultimate relation to that more awful period of the revelation of the mysteries of God, "when the vail of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom;" an event emblematical of that free access to the treasures of divine knowledge, obtained through HIM, who is emphatically called, "THE KEY of the HOUSE of GOD, and THE DOOR by which men enter into it?"

On account of the familiarity of their forms, it is perhaps difficult to raise some of these symbols above their common acceptation, however certainly borrowed from the most remote antiquity. The three square figures at the bottom of the shield, are

* See Antiquity, N° 18.

† Its form and import, among some corresponding symbols, may be observed, Obelisk Pamph. Lib. v. p. 554.

commonly understood to represent the dice wherewith the soldiers cast lots; yet that the lots were cast by these means there is no scripture authority: whereas the same figures frequently occur among the hieroglyphics on the obelisks at Rome; and from right authentic testimony of their application as symbols, "three squares, distinguished by a central cross," implied "the uniform operation of the elements, by their regular combinations, exhibiting that wisdom of design conspicuous in their several energies*." Christians of early ages, who saw the primæval allusion, adopted these as suitable emblems to attend the triumph of the Cross of Jesus, and bear attestation to their devout sense of HIS influence, whom all the powers of nature acknowledged their Lord.

The LADDER too, though evidently applicable in the common acceptation, as expressed in paintings of the "Taking down from the Cross;" yet preserves a form so much resembling the BIER, as sculptured in the obelisks of Egypt, on which they carried the Mysteries in the solemnities of their homage and piety, that we scarce can fail to see its appropriation as a symbol of veneration to that overruling Providence, which it was the purpose of these solemnities to imprint upon the mind.

The sacred pitcher, the torch, the bird, as elementary symbols; the platted cord, the lash, and sceptral reed; no less than the alpha and omega, being all repeatedly found among the hieroglyphics of the most remote antiquity, might each deservedly attract attention; and in tracing their several derivations, we should explicitly discern how judiciously they have been selected and applied to aggrandize the manifestation of evangelic truth, by all that was most sacred and venerable in the prophetic ages. But even what has been already here offered on the subject may be thought in some measure foreign to the purport of this publication, too speculative for a work of taste, and too abstract for common apprehension; yet there is no doing justice to these symbols without such an illustration, as may be evident in the following instance, which shall be the final one.

An unmentioned symbol occurs with a kind of glory round it, which has vulgarly been denominated the Nails of the Cross. It often is represented, in Catholic monuments, in situations and with appendages one is at a loss to apply, until its primæval import is discovered. It was an original symbol of the divine NAME, expressed by the word —JAH, or I AM. It was accordingly imitated, in the written Hebrew, by three , which bear a near affinity in form to the original Hierogram. In Hebrew manuscripts, that are in the Vatican at Rome, the NAME of GOD is found often thus written †. The TALMUD bears attestation to the sanctity of these three unities ‡; they are called the most sacred SEPHIROT of the DEITY. The Reverend Father THOMAS OBECINUS, who copied the symbols inscribed on the rocks on HOREB || and mount SINAI, expressly delineates this one among them:—of such high antiquity are the originals, of which this shield retains the memorial.

* Plato. Oedip. Ægypt. tom. ii. p. 103, 107.

Oedip. Ægypt. tom. ii. p. 114.

† Arcanum est, quod tria Jod æqualia trium Personarum equalitatem significant. Galatinus.

‡ The character, or symbol of Unity, has in all ages been emphatically applied to the Deity: "There is none good but ONE, that is, GOD," Matt. xix. 17.

|| Oedip. Ægyptiacus, tom. ii. p. 110.

J. Magell. Sculp

C. Gordon. Pinx

CORGARF CASTLE.

THIS building is situated in a very wild and mountainous country, not far from the source of the River Don; which, after winding its course for a stretch of near seventy miles, falls into the sea near to the town of OLD ABERDEEN, part of the history of which is given in the succeeding pages, accompanying the view of the college.

At *Kildrummy Castle*, a narrow defile, opens a distinguished pass into the more high-land country; the path winding round the steep sides of dark and forlorn hills, seems gloomy and forbidding, but after a few miles, the prospect opens into a large extent of well-cultivated fields, spreading round the Kirk-town of TOWIE. From thence, up the river and along the banks of the *Don*, the road is level and pleasant, every turn presents fresh views of improvements adjacent to the residences of the proprietors of these estates, which are occasionally seen amidst woods in the openings of the glens, and on the declivities of the hills; and old castles, the seats of former heritors, frequently appearing on the still higher grounds, seem to give additional importance to the landscape. At *Glenkindie*, the banks of the *Don* are delightful to a great degree; a little beyond, upon a rising ground, amid aged and decaying trees, there is a square tower, and other remains of an old baronial house, which from the name of the adjacent valley is called the castle of *Glenbucket*, and is now annexed to the estates of the earl of *Fife*.—On the side of the opposite hill, there are some underground houses, on account of which, the situation was more particularly distinguished, in case of any travellers wishing to examine their structure in person.

They are certainly a species of places of refuge meant to be concealed; secret strong holds, built by the chiefs of the Clans, in the early and very turbulent periods of society. They are long gloomy cells, the entrance to which is very narrow and confined; and could therefore be easily defended by a few, against far superior strength and numbers. Part of the roof of one is broken up, this throws light into the vault, which shews it to have been built up at the sides with great art and care, with well-selected but unhewn stones, gradually projected towards the roof, and closed above with long flag stones, or huge granite slabs. Over the whole a vast strata of earth and turf had been laid and levelled, so as to correspond, in appearance, with the surrounding surface of the hill; and without forming any mound that could distinguish the place where this recess had been excavated and built below. These seem to have been a kind of out-works, or necessary appendage to towers and places of strength; to yield a safe and secure retreat from the pursuit and violence of invaders; and for *lying in wait*, to awe or surprise approaching enemies. From hence on to CORGARF, a ride of twenty miles, it is pleasant enough along the banks of the *Don*; tho' nothing else occurs to detain attention long, but variety of prospects; wild, majestic, gloomy; and some animating and chearful ones, alternately coming in view.

CORGARF itself is but an old castellated house, which, when fitted up with some additional buildings, was constituted into a kind of fortress, and garrisoned by

government about half a century ago; there were several such, established on the same footing, and officers appointed to reside in them, to enforce political regulations in these remote districts, where they had been formerly but partially attended to; and to secure to individuals the possession of property, while surrounded with numbers long unaccustomed to the restraints of law, and irritated by opposing interests. They are now altogether superfluous in these views, the discipline of civil society being thoroughly understood and cheerfully followed in the most inland regions of every county. These buildings seem only now destined to serve the purpose of affording good accommodation to those gentlemen, who in the end of Summer, and in Autumn, delight to wander o'er the higher hills, to enjoy the recreations of the field—the pastime of fowling. The surrounding mountains abounding with cover, and the hills of heath with game, render *Cor-garf* an eligible residence for sportsmen during the hunting season; and it is for that purpose often occupied accordingly. It embellishes the present landscape, presented as a specimen of the picturesque beauty of some of these mountainous regions.

Magell sculp

© Corduner pnx

KING's COLLEGE, ABERDON.

THIS institution was originally dedicated to the VIRGIN MARY; but received its present appellation soon after the university was established by a royal charter, and because amply endowed by the munificence of JAMES IV.

It is not perhaps altogether foreign to these memorials, to mention also, that the above is the proper orthography of that ancient city, and the name is so written in the earliest manuscripts. ABER, in the language of our forefathers, generally signified, the place where a rivulet falls into a river, or where a river falls into the sea; this is situated near the mouth of the river DON. The large commercial city adjacent, is properly ABERDEEN, or ABER-DEE, because situated near the noble harbour formed by the confluence of that celebrated river with the ocean.

Each of these hath an university; the other is called "THE MARISCHAL COLLEGE," because founded and endowed by *George* Earl Marischal of *Scotland*, about a century after the former. In both these colleges, the methods of instruction are nearly the same; the lectures differing only by the accidental difference of diligence or ability in the professors. The students wear scarlet gowns, and the professors black; which is the academical dress in all the Scottish universities, except that of *Edinburgh*;—where the scholars are not distinguished by any particular habit.

The courts and religious establishments originally connected with the college now under consideration, in their early flourishing estate contained the splendid residence of a primate of an opulent bishoprick, the cathedral of this diocese, and an extensive CANONRY, which was a seminary of learning.

Pope ADRIAN, was the first who patronized this institution, or at least in whose pontificate it was consulted: HE granted the requisite privileges, and gave authority to EDWARD BISHOP OF ABERDON, anno 1157, to constitute a COLLEGE OF CANONS there, as well for the purposes of erudition, as the more pompous celebration of divine service.

In the reign of *Alexander* II. and by concessions from that monarch, the appointments were increased for the support of that "CANONICAL SCHOOL OF "GENERAL LITERATURE*," that there theology, law, medicine, philosophy, and the liberal arts, should be freely taught.

There is in the chartulary an original charter of *David* I. anno 1154, corresponding with the above, specifying the tithes and lands devoted to the cathedral;—and a confirmation of it by *Malcolm* IV. with an additional parchment, granting liberty of pasturage in the forest of *Aberdeen*—and to have it for a perpetual barony; dated at BANFF, anno 1170.

But it was soon after its distinguished patron the great BISHOP ELPHINSTON, so justly renowned for his love of letters, and eminent talents, by the historians of

* Studium Generale in Collegio Canonicorum.

the age, was promoted to the see, that the institutions of the university attained their full splendor.

The high encomiums given him in the ROYAL CHARTER, and other particulars relative to this establishment, seem worthy of an extract; and, along with a few particulars of BOETIUS's comment, will afford an ample idea of the subject.

"For the special devotion, says the monarch, which we bear to the most glorious VIRGIN *Mary*, patron of the cathedral church of ABERDON, in praise and honour of her; and for the singular favour and love we bear towards the reverend father in Christ WILLIAM ELPHINSTON, present bishop and prelate of the said cathedral church, our well beloved CHANCELLOR, KEEPER OF OUR PRIVY-SEAL;—and for his faithful and willing service; freely undertaking great travel and expences at diverse times in our employments, and ambassages to the kings and kingdoms of *France* and *England*; to the dukes of *Burgundy* and *Austria*, and other potentates and foreign parts; and in our service within our kingdom—for the common wealth and tranquillity thereof diverse ways by him accomplished. And also—for the unity, quiet, and necessary sustentation of the reverend father and his successors, the chapter, canons, chaplains, and substitutes of the foresaid cathedral church and university of ABERDON, and their domestic servitors there residing:—We have created, made, and feued, now of new as before, and by the tenor of this our present charter, we create, make, and feu the aforesaid vill of *Aberdon*, with the bounds and pertinents, into a CITY AND UNIVERSITY, and into a free burgh of barony for ever."

As it was one of the peculiar and prevailing tenets of that æra, to hold the papal authority requisite, to give sanction to every more important establishment, for promoting religion and science; BISHOP ELPHINSTON obtained from pope *Alexander VI.* an edict;—"constituting the bishops {of *Aberdeen* chancellors of the university, in all time coming, sole and supreme judges of all causes therein, whether temporal or spiritual; and endowing it with all the privileges enjoyed by the universities of *PARIS* and *BONONIA*."

BOETIUS is warm and animated in his eulogiums of the above eminent character, whom he calls, the chosen of God, and the glory of the age!—they do equal honour to their author, as to the prelate, in whose praise they are written; and, involving other circumstances relative to the establishment of the university, are every way deserving of record here. "It gives us joy to contemplate such a character; we ought to be grateful to Heaven, which gave us so great a pattern of all excellence in knowledge and in virtue.—If the man is to be extolled, who adds splendor and dignity to the institutions of religion and of science, whereby the number of learned persons are increased, for the promotion of devotion and knowledge:—If we account any man worthy of immortality for his virtue;—or any thing more excellent than virtue, whereby youth passes uncorrupted, manhood illustrious, and age respectable, by integrity, piety, and sanctity of life: Such was HE who wore the mitre at this
"time;

“ time; and consulted the more effectual establishment of a college for every
“ branch of literature here.

“ I,” says the fond historian, “ was appointed by the bishop first professor of
“ the liberal arts; was called over from the *Montague* college in PARIS, where I
“ was reading lectures on philosophy; and left, with regret, the many eminent
“ scholars, my associates, whom I respected there, being prevailed on by the
“ flattering encouragements given me by the primate, to be the PRINCIPAL
“ among those engaged in the important office of the instruction of youth.

“ I met with a very kind and favourable reception from the CANONS; MEN of
“ excellent qualities; equally respected for their noble birth and eminent talents.
“ They acquired universal admiration for their eloquence in teaching, and zeal in
“ encouraging all liberal arts; and for their love of communicating all know-
“ ledge, human and divine.

“ By their means, in a short time, the university produced many scholars
“ remarkably distinguished for the proficiency of their knowledge, in law, physic,
“ and divinity; and who by their great learning, and the praiseworthy cha-
“ racters they bore, were bright ornaments of the catholic church in *Scotland*.

“ In order to give these advantages of literature the fuller effect, a new court:
“ was added to the college, which for beauty and extent of its buildings can-
“ not be sufficiently celebrated. In it is a church, built in a noble stile,
“ and a magnificent choir was added to it. The steeple is of great height,
“ finished above with an arched copula, in form of an imperial crown, con-
“ taining a chime of thirteen bells of most melodious sound*.

“ Houses were purchased, and built, for the professors of the canon and
“ civil law, physic, and grammar, distinct from the college, &c. &c.”

These buildings still remain entire, or have been improved and repaired, and
are now occupied by the professors, according to the above destination. The
steeple mentioned by BOETIUS, as finished above in form of an imperial crown,
is indeed both a very remarkable and beautiful one; and occupies a principal
part of the view of the college hereto annexed.

The adjacent town, tho’ distinguished in the royal charter as a city, is
rather a village; owing in a great measure its existence to the ecclesiastical
establishments; whose influence still prevails in the university, and the valuable
institutions it preserves for the education of youth.—One great object of attention
to the inhabitants, is the accommodation of those students who have not lodgings
within the pale of the college walls; but being lodged so nearly adjacent to the
dwellings of the professors, they are at all times in a manner immediately
under their eye and notice; and it is but just to add, that the utmost vigilance
is bestowed, to discern and carefully regulate the whole tenour of their private

* This venerable author expatiates with much seeming sacred triumph and pleasure, on the various
embellishments of the temple, and its numerous altars. These are, in some points of view, both inte-
resting and entertaining; and, as connected with circumstances attending the revolutions which this insti-
tution has undergone, and too diffuse to be inserted here, form part of the anecdotes, accompanying
the seals, engraven for the antiquity of this number.

conduct; and to guard and protect them from the fatal effects of that dissipation and dissoluteness of manners, which is too apt to prevail in larger towns, and where the conduct of individuals cannot be so particularly recognized.

Whatever the cathedral and canonry may have lost in splendor as an evangelical establishment, by the devastations attending the hasty and entire change of the institutions of religion, which occurred here about a hundred and fifty years ago; it has not suffered in its capacity, as a seat and seminary of learning: the professors chairs are filled with men of ability, and studious to discharge the important duty of the instruction of youth, with an assiduity and zeal worthy of an enlightened æra, and the interesting office which they have in charge.

From the situation of the college, a kind of retirement is enjoyed, every way favourable to erudition: equally at a distance from the bustle of a commercial city, and the dissipations of a crowded and a gay one, that more thorough disengagement and tranquillity is indulged, so essential to the deliberate investigation of the principles of science, and to the successful prosecution of the discoveries of philosophy.

J. Russell Sculp.

C. Gordonian Print

Antient State of the CATHEDRAL at ABERDEEN : with the SEALS thereof.

THIS Cathedral and Canonry, was dedicated to the VIRGIN MARY. Traces of the enthusiasm, or peculiar strain of piety, which formed the principle of these dedications, so prevalent in that age, are observable in the writings of its most respectable historians. BOETIUS, mentioning the early dawn of devotion that illuminated the mind of the celebrated BISHOP ELPHINSTON, says, "One day when at *Glasgow*, an infant not five years old, he was missing, and could no where be found, until, after diligent search, he was discovered prostrate before the image of the VIRGIN, in the innermost chapel of the Cathedral: and it was with much reluctance, and with tears, when he was taken away, that he left the sacred shrine. This his so great and early desire to contemplate THAT IMAGE, was looked on as an omen of his future greatness. Another time, when a youth, he had a vision, that he was on his knees, imploring the VIRGIN's favour; and she vouchsafed a gracious reply, saying, —When you attain the pontificate, for which you are designed, you shall aggrandize My Altars, and restore the ancient splendor of My Temples."

The above historian is diffuse in his narrative of the fulfilment of these predictions; and gives a copious detail of the noble additions which he made to the sacred buildings, and of the very opulent manner in which he endowed and adorned the Cathedral. In consequence of his admiration of these, he is almost as full and particular in distinguishing its more remarkable embellishments, as are the sacred writers in recording the structure and hallowed contents of the Sanctuary and Temple of JERUSALEM. The ministers of the sacred communications, saw the importance of these brilliant appendages of piety, wherewith religious rites were celebrated, in a superior point of view to what we can do now. There was a symbolical splendor in them, which shed awe, and gave an inviting aggrandizement to the offices of devotion. It was moreover to that profound veneration wherewith those pompous and mysterious rites were received, that the Catholic Church was indebted for the honorary emoluments, and tributary offerings, so liberally bestowed by the princes and nobles of that age.

The pious author of the memorials alluded to, seems to dwell with luxurious devotion on the profusion of ornament and imagery; and on the richness of the sacred vestments, with which the evangelical rites were then solemnized. "This magnificent church and choir were hallowed with twelve marble altars finely polished and carved, and adorned with holy images, statues of saints, pictures, carpets, and hangings. In the tapestries surrounding the altars, were wrought the histories of the Blessed VIRGIN, and of many saints and holy personages. There were banners of silk for solemn processions, crowns of gold, and mitres set with pearls and precious stones; croziers and rods of silver. The robes and mantles of purple and fine linen, were embroidered at the sides with figures of saints and angels, set round with various gems and stars of gold."

From amid three hundred articles particularly specified and described in the inventories, the three following, only, are produced; as sufficient to form an estimate, and afford some adequate idea of the treasures devoted to the aggrandizement of the church, in that its most flourishing æra in *Scotland*, intra ann. 1500 and 1600.

A superb EUCHARIST, or EXPOSITIONUM *, of silver, elaborately carved, and overlaid with gold, two cubits high.

A CHALICE and its PATINE of pure gold, set with diamonds and large rubies; weight fifty-nine ounces.

An image of the Blessed VIRGIN MARY, of solid silver, weight 114 ounces.

From many concurring circumstances it is evident, that at the above æra the precious metals, or money, were at least ten times their present value; the above articles,

* See Antiquity, N^o 14.

therefore, by a moderate computation, were equivalent to £. 500 sterling.—The silver work alone, employed on the embellishment of the altars, for the sacred utensils, &c. was considerably above a hundred weight; from which, and a right elaborate estimate of the jewels, ornaments, insignia, and plate of the CATHEDRAL, they must altogether have exceeded TEN THOUSAND POUNDS sterling value!

Amidst all this parade and splendor, the mystical divinity prevailed. The very bells were cast with words in their mouth, as if animated and founding the voice of piety; and were named after the angels.

One, called GABRIEL, was furrounded with the apposite text,

LO! I PROCLAIM UNTO YOU GLAD TIDINGS;—GLAD TIDINGS UNTO ALL PEOPLE!

Another, named MICHAEL, assumes the voice of the archangel; expressing and exemplifying the divine command,

MAKE A LOUD NOISE UNTO GOD! PRAISE HIM ACCEPTABLY WITH A SOLEMN SOUND.

A third, in language more appropriate, perhaps, tells its various office.

I CELEBRATE THE SABBATH: PROCLAIM THE SOLEMNITIES OF THE SANCTUARY;
AND SOUND THE FUNERAL KNELL*.

A fourth rings an ejaculation to the VIRGIN:

PROTEGE PRECOR, pia, QUOS CONVOCO, SANCTA MARIA!

Which has been paraphrased in a manner that does full justice to the original:

Hail! Holy Mary!—at the inspiring sound

Assembling crowds convene to prayer and praise:

Bless thou the pious, who thy shrines surround;

For this to Heaven My solemn voice I raise.

An inscription of a corresponding strain, was placed over the gate that led into the court of the Cathedral†, on a piece of sculpture representing the Virgin with the child Jesus in her arms, and as patroness of the canonry. Verses of a similar nature with the above, and which give a sublimity to the turn of thought, concisely expressed in the Latin, are not foreign to our purpose, and may be therefore acceptably repeated here.

See! o'er the gates that to these altars lead,

MATERNAL DEITY her love disclose!

Let all who seek these sacred courts to tread,

On love divine their pious hopes repose.

Dare not approach;—unless with holy care

You to the glorious Virgin say, All hail!

But if the HALLOWED NAME you thus revere,

Your prayers, your wish for access, shall prevail.

These yield us strong expressions of the peculiar enthusiasm, so prevalent in that æra, which blended the adoration of MARY with every sacred thought; and finally proved so fatal to the Catholic cause.

It is not a little remarkable, in evidence of this, that in the charter granted by King JAMES IV. devoting ample territories to the church, and confirming all the religious establishments of the Cathedral AND SEE of *Aberdeen*, there is no expression of his piety to the SUPREME BEING, nor of veneration to the MESSIAH and Son of God: but only—"FOR THE SPECIAL DEVOTION WHICH WE BEAR TO THE MOST GLORIOUS VIRGIN MARY! IN PRAISE AND HONOUR OF HER; WE GRANT, &c."

The too distinguishing characteristic of the Catholic faith, at this æra, was this pre-eminent devotion to the HOLY VIRGIN, and consequent veneration of her statues. Sculptured and painted representations of the Virgin and Child, appeared on every

* Sabbato pango—Solennia clango—Funera plango.

† HAC NE VADE VIA, NISI DIXERIS AVE MARIA!
INVENIES VENIAM, SIC SALUTANDO MARIAM.

public monument and at every sacred shrine. These, at least at first, were harmless memorials of divine truth: set up as a repeated annunciation of one of the primary mysteries of the Christian faith:—an explicit reference to the first principle of evangelical belief: was esteemed from the earliest ages, as the most hallowed symbol of “The beginning of the gospel of Christ.”

It is an engaging representation in itself, and was consecrated to religion in primæval rites, before the light of the gospel dawned.

“A beautiful female caressing an infant,” says an eminent Antiquarian, “is one of the happiest symbols of that kind and intelligent Nature, which nourishes the universe. This was sculptured on *Egyptian* monuments, and placed in their sanctuaries, as conveying the most grateful idea of that affectionate care which cherishes the creation, considered as the offspring of God and under the guardianship of parental goodness.”

It is evident these sublime ideas of the most momentous principle of natural religion blending with evangelical truths, contributed to that deep homage, wherewith the statues of the Virgin were regarded; and perhaps intelligent men, judging that the Mother of our Lord appeared a more accessible object of popular devotion, and that piety to her was more easily apprehended and expressed, than veneration towards the Supreme, Essential, Universal Cause; indulged an opinion similar to that of a modern traveller, equally remarkable for sound sense and ingenuity; who, speaking of the enthusiasm of the *ITALIANS*, says, “What a hard-hearted thing philosophy is! requiring of the world, a worship so purely spiritual, that the generality of mankind know not where to fix the affections of their hearts in prayer: but set before them a beautiful woman with a child in her arms, to whom they may prefer their petitions; and they then know what they are about.”

But whatever the speculative opinions actually were, their various energy was conspicuous in exciting and preserving alive, for many ages, a pre-eminent degree of veneration for the person and the statues of the Holy Virgin.

And whatever the gradations may have been, in the change of the prevailing spirit of enthusiasm, which occasioned so complete a reverse in the system of religious tenets, as subverted, during the former century, the whole order of the Catholic establishments in *North Britain*; it is apparent that the first violence of the reforming zeal was directed against these statues.

If the leaders of the ecclesiastical revolution considered the profound respect paid to the Virgin Mary, as any thing derogatory to the pure worship of the OMNIPOTENT; it offers a grand apology for their indignation and resentment; and is almost sufficient to authorize their laying waste those altars, which they looked on as trophies of a system, which divided the homage due to God alone. The acknowledgment of ONE SUPREME BEING, has often proved the most powerfully actuating principle of the human mind; and when brought into competition with all the influence of the world obstructing its progress, has been found to triumph in the most conspicuous and distinguished manner.

But alas! the praise of that sublime view cannot be, without humiliating limitations, granted.

In many respects the destroying zeal of the conceived reformation, was a blind and lamentable phrenzy, involving equally in the devastations which it occasioned to the shrines of MARY, the most sacred monuments raised in honour of the great author of Christianity. And it is remarkable that this was not only the occasional effect of popular tumult, but likewise proceeded from the maxims that swayed the councils of the powerful and the learned.

The cold deliberation wherewith they set about defacing the memorials of “The NAME, and of the CROSS and PASSION of our Lord—as a testimony of their zeal for the interests of his gospel—is one of those inexplicable phænomena in the religious and moral world, which often elude our understanding.

“ The principal of the College of *Edenburgh*—with the presbyterian clergy; aided
 “ by barons of the realm and military officers; held a committee at OLD ABERDEEN,
 “ August 5, 1640. And” (as a nearly cotemporary writer tells, in a simple and artless
 narrative *)—“ Thereafter came to the Cathedral church with wrights and masons,
 “ and caused our Blessed Lord Jesus’s arms † to be hewn out of the front of the pulpit,
 “ and from other parts of the church, where they were carved on stone;—and to take
 “ down the statue of the blessed Virgin Mary, and her dear Son Jesus in her arms;
 “ which stood in curious work at the west end, unmoved till then. And gave
 “ orders to Colonel *Forbes* to see these things done; which he with all diligence obeyed,
 “ and caused to chisel out the name of JESUS, drawn cypher-ways, IHS, i. e. *Jesus*
Hominum Salvator, on the front of the isle, opposite to the consistory door.

“ And on the ancient Town Cross, there were sculptures of the Blessed Virgin *Mary*,
 “ which they defaced; and the crucifix on the top was broken down; and where
 “ there were any crucifixes in the glass windows of honest men’s houses, they demolish-
 “ ed them.—And brake down the high altar, the carved crowns and ornaments thereof,
 “ curiously wrought of fine wainscot; for within *Scotland* there was not a more excellent
 “ piece of workmanship.—And the workmen would not put to their hand to take it
 “ down, until the said ministers put theirs first, and then the work was done.”

This memoir is sufficient to shew the progress of the desolating transactions of that
 gloomy period, and how little the spirit breathed in them, that animates the Protestant
 language now; such as gives energy to the pious contemplations of DR. BLAIR:—“ The
 “ Cross, from the death of CHRIST, became the symbol of every thing holy and divine
 “ to all succeeding generations. Instead of being a reproach to his followers, it was,
 “ indeed, their boast and glory, it was the ensign of renown to the Lord JESUS; and
 “ was therefore, thenceforth, to shine on churches and on palaces, throughout all the
 “ earth:—’Twas to be emblazoned on the shields, and assumed as a mark of distinc-
 “ tion by the most powerful monarchs, and to wave in the banners of victorious
 “ armies.”

Religion, of all things in the world, merits the utmost pomp and splendor to be given
 to the celebration of its rites: and, where they do not withdraw the mind from the great
 object of devotion, have been encouraged in every enlightened age.

Without any great predilection, therefore, for the mysterious grandeur of symbols,
 admiration of those subjects which have engaged the abilities of the first artists of the
 world, would cause some regret of those desolations, which consigned to oblivion so many
 monuments of venerable antiquity. And some mournful reflections on the instability
 of human good, are scarce to be avoided by the sensible spectator, who views the so
 many magnificent ruins of Cathedrals, and stately churches, which once adorned this
 country.

It is indeed true, that institutions for diffusing knowledge, and for training youth
 to fill the various departments of the liberal professions, must be seen equally impor-
 tant, whatever the form that religious rites and ceremonies assume;—the seminary
 of learning, therefore, and the endowments for the purposes of erudition, connected with
 the Cathedral and Canonry at *Aberdeen*; had happily influence sufficient to prevent them
 from that total desolation, which so many other ecclesiastical establishments ex-
 perienched.

* * * * *

The greater part of the figures on the seals are of evident allusion.

The Virgin and child, with the statues of saints supporting their throne, need no com-
 ment. And the cherubs kneeling to the same personages crowned, on that of KYNLOS,
 exemplify the oracle, “ Let all the angels of God worship him.”

Some of the concomitant symbols—and the figures on the other seal—are of more
 obscure origin; or the sacred reference is drawn from considerations more remote:
 which may be resumed on some future occasion.

* OREMS. MS. printed also in Bibl. Topo. Britan. N° III.

† Shields containing the symbols of the Passion—a specimen of which was given in the former N°.

Aggregate of CORALS &c.

Published for the Art Director, April 1, 1793, by Peter Ansell, Engraver, N° 7, Bridg's Street, (b'th' Garden).

Aggregate of CORALS, SERPULÆ, &c.

“THE deeps of the ocean teem with myriads of animated being, which fabricate their several lodgings with infinitely fine expressions of skill and elegance of taste.”

It is certainly an object of some curiosity, in the delineations of natural history, to represent the casual arrangements, and remarkable combinations of corals, shells, and serpulæ, which are found adhering together, and on stones dredged up in deep water; because these natural arrangements can be but very seldom seen;—and it is with the utmost difficulty that they can be preserved, even for the cabinets of the most curious.

The very tender and delicate nature of the finer corals, render it a difficult charge to transport them from one place to another, in any kind of package, unless in detached pieces; such an aggregate as that from whence the drawing of the plate was taken, is scarcely to be found in the first museums of *Europe*; it was therefore thought expedient to exhibit it, in this elaborate manner, as a specimen of these very beautiful combinations, which the variety of marine productions assume in the deep recesses of the ocean.

Those who are inclined to amuse their leisure hours with speculation on those wonderful energies of life, that fill the inaccessible grottos of the deep with arrangements of such exquisite workmanship, have in this, some evidence of those subjects of admiration, wherewith the beds of the ocean teem.

Such an aggregate of ornamental fabrics, with all their inhabitants alive, is perhaps one of the finest spectacles in the natural world; and on which, microscopic attention bestowed, may yield a series of endless entertainment. We survey with equal surprise and pleasure, the inexplicable contrivances of nature, in the manner of life, and texture of these beautiful productions. The operation of their various instincts, is an engaging theme of reflection; but, like many other sources of intellectual enjoyment, we hardly attain to the causes from whence the pleasure ultimately springs.

Elegance and beauty of form naturally attract our notice, and inspire with joy, perhaps by impressing the idea of an infinite excellence, and capacity of design, unfolding and expressed by all that we admire.

The peculiarities of their organisation, determines the part they are to act; the wonders they are to perform, in the general embellishment of the submarine regions;—but there is still some inexplicable SKILL, the ORIGIN of adapting their organs to the little sphere of duty and existence, which they are appointed to fill; and disposing their structure to taste that share of comfort which their situation allows them to enjoy.

The desires implanted in them, acting on the peculiar organisation assigned to each, push them on to various action, and to industrious perseverance in their enterprizes, until the purposes of their being are fulfilled.

In their works of ingenuity, as well as in their exertions and contrivances to attain their daily food, they evidently act as if they distinctly knew what would be the result of their several plans and operations. They proceed, as if in consequence of reasonings the most profound; and as if actuated by conclusions scientifically drawn

from experience and accurate observation. Were they reasonable creatures, rational beings, what various instruction would be necessary to regulate these operations? To what university could they go? at what seminary of learning could they be taught all the skill in physics necessary to direct their conduct? Yet all this profound erudition they have attained; and we are equally astonished at their capacities, and masterly performances, when they employ them—and our astonishment can only end by admitting of the school, where they have learned their arts and ingenuity. “They have received instruction, and have been informed, by ONE WHO hath taught the sparrow to find out a nest—and made the stork to prepare a dwelling, where she may rear her young.”

The very beautiful and uncommon species of coral represented at E, E, are generally of a very pure white, sometimes a little inclining to straw colour; the small pores, like radiated dots, which express the openings of their cells, are so similar to those of the larger coral, to which they adhere, that it seemed unnecessary to add their magnified appearance.

In the larger bushes of the more massy coral, thro’ all the cavities formed by the inosculations of the surrounding branches, variety of the more minute and tender kinds are formed; taking advantage of those recesses, as the most secure and safe abodes where their brittle frames can be reared and defended from external violence: and this assemblage of the minuter corals of various forms, all excelling in beauty, of most delicate texture, and the purest white, affords in itself a museum—where the secret unfoldings of nature open a source of silent wonder, and indulge, by an inexplicable charm, some of the finest feelings of the human heart.

The *Striated Lepas**, are found in great abundance, adhering to the shells of Serpulæ, and to the coralline tubes; as on the scolopendra at a. a. The animal of that multivalve, (which can only be seen alive during its very rapid movements, inhaling sustenance from the tide, by careful and repeated observation) is of the form expressed in the plate at A. Its numerous curling tentacula are feathered along the sides, no doubt, on purpose the more effectually to arrest those atoms floating in the water, which constitute its nourishment.

The animals of the scolopendra tubes are various in form and appearance; the one at B seems essentially different from the species delineated in N° 5. Over the end of the tube C, the corals have effectually spread their dwellings, and by that encroachment have ended the life of the inhabitant.

These combinations of corals, shells, &c. in their natural and wild arrangements, have seldom been represented with suitable care; yet are certainly of importance, as affording a more complete idea of their manner of growth and life, than the delineations of each individual subject, separate and apart, can do. The exhibiting of the modes in which they are combined by nature, their relations and affinity, gives scope, as far as possible, for the same variety of reflection, of amusement, and of admiration, as possession of the original specimens could impart; and for that end, therefore, are here offered to view.

W. H. P. 1841

1841

REMAINS OF THE ROYAL PALACE OF *KILDRUMY CASTLE.*

THIS noble ruin is situated in the interior parts of *Aberdeenshire*, commanding the fertile provinces of the ancient county of *MAR*. It is about twenty miles above the town of *Huntly*, and as far beyond *Inverary* and *Kinton*. On approaching the rising ground which the castle occupies, its whole appearance is striking and majestic.

The fullen grandeur of its decaying walls and mouldering towers, command a solemn respect; and one can hardly fail to enter with awe, into the lofty and desolated courts, of that once so splendid and sumptuous habitation.— To pervade the deserted and moss-grown halls, where princes oft had met, to weigh the measures of state, or hold the gay carousal; and where now nothing but silence and desolation reign, impresses such ideas of the transient estate of human life and all its vanities, as inspires that degree of solemnity of thought, which supplies the mind with some conscious greatness, in contemplating its own compofure, amid the memorials of the perishable estate of all human grandeur.

The stile of the whole building is truly superb and majestic, equally expressive of a princely taste, in consulting its magnificence, as of cautious regard to its security, and defence as an impregnable and spacious fortress.

The buildings arranged in form of a pentagon, are defended at the angles, by very strong and lofty towers; the strength of the towers, and their position and construction for flanking the walls, seem superior to what could be thought necessary before the use of cannon; and the grandeur of its ample plan could correspond with nothing else, than its being designed as a principal residence and palace to the Kings of Scotland, where they might safely keep their court in the most troublesome times.

The court within is spacious, where hundreds of men might be trained, and various recreations indulged.

Religion was equally revered and countenanced in their palaces, as the heightener of their quiet enjoyments, and their consolation in trouble and distress. A peculiar kind of columns, and vast length of windows, in a superb edifice on the eastern side, shew the august ruins of the Temple where the Altars were placed, and where the offerings of their devotion had been paid. These sacred walls barely retain the vestiges of the carvings which had embellished them, and are tumbling, with the rest of the pile into one common ruin.

Many instances occur in Caledonian annals, which shew the importance of *KILDRUMY CASTLE*, during intestine commotions and feats of arms. Owing to its peculiar strength and situation of security, it often became a fortunate asylum to

many noble families, who otherwise too often shared with their Lords, the horrors of civil war.

When the forces of King ROBERT BRUCE were routed at *Methven*, by the Earl of PEMBROKE, and the king retreated with the remains of his army, the ladies his relations crowded to his standard for protection from the enemy; and for the sake of that advantage, offered to partake of his fatigues and dangers, and to follow his fortunes, however severe. But he enjoined them rather, to consult their ease and safety, by retiring to his Castle of KILDRUMY, which he continued to esteem impregnable, and a place of thorough security.

When EDWARD III. wished to have the kingdom of SCOTLAND annexed to his crown, and for that purpose invaded it, the adherents of King ROBERT defended this fortress against the enemy during their most successful inroads; and thence considerably harassed them, and counteracted their designs.

In 1333, KILDRUMY Palace was occupied by the venerable CHRISTIANA BRUCE, sister of ROBERT I. which, her allies and friends aided her to defend against all the attacks of the enemy, so that she was left in peaceful possession of the surrounding country.

The Earl of ATHOL courted the favour of EDWARD, and desirous of shewing his zeal, and of performing some distinguished service, to promote his designs on SCOTLAND, thought no enterprize could be better calculated for that end, than that of seizing on the Castle of KILDRUMY, and giving the command of it to the Deputies of the King.

He invested it in November, 1335, with three thousand men, and besieged it for some time without effect; but finding that a body of some forces approached to its relief, he raised the siege, that he might go forth to fight, and to disperse them. On this the garrison sallied out on his rear, while the other small army attacked with such violence, that the EARL was cut off, and most of his followers fell the same day.

From his defeat and death in the Fields of KILBLAIN, the spirit of Independence so far revived, that EDWARD is said, secretly to have sighed for an honourable opportunity of making peace with a Nation, whom he found neither his power nor his policy could subdue.

Such recollections, of the importance of this Royal Palace, as a place of strength and moment in the conflicts of these distracted times, and the remembrance of the variety of fates, its Possessors often experienced, all conspire to render a survey of the Ruins more interesting, and heighten the serious impression which the Remains of its august structure leave upon the mind.

J. Macell J. W.

C. J. W.

T H E D R E A M:

A Title given to the wild Windings of a GLEN, in the AIRD, or
STRATH-GLASS, ROSSHIRE.

THE mountainous scenery, beyond Inverness, where the towering skirts of that county rise into the high lands of Rossshire, is extremely magnificent, picturesque, and wild. The deep vallies and rugged glens of the western hills, above the Abbey of BEAULIEU, yield many of these romantic scenes, which would afford the choicest subjects for the pencil of such Artists as delight in the wilder prospects of Nature—in those grand combinations of precipices, woods, and torrents, which constitute the noblest stile of Landscape.

From one striking opening of the various prospect among the rocky paths of the steep banks of the river *Beaulieu*, filed the *Aird*, or heights from the midst of that peculiarly wild district of *Shath-Glas*, called the DREAM, the Drawing of the present Plate was taken. Whether it has been called the *Dream* from a similar sound, of the early language of the country, signifying, as is said, its wild and rugged appearance; or if it has been applied, as a visionary term, to express the romantic windings, and the strange majestic prospects, which open with such varied and uncommon beauty, in the course of wandering through the intricacies of the Glen, it may be equally conceived as having reference to those grand and unusual features which characterize the place, which in many views faithfully delineated, would rather appear the fruits of a lively and daring imagination, than any Landscapes really existing in Nature.

Just at the entrance of the road into the Wild, that is, more properly termed the Dream, an intricate footpath leads aside along the margins of a rivulet, penetrating into the shades of a deep and rugged glen. This glen at length seems terminated by an inclosure of bold precipices, over which the rivulet plays down in several streams, which, interrupted and scattered by the broken irregularities of the rock, forms a charming cascade. This picturesque and beautiful fall of water, in so retired a situation, is often passed by without observation, even by those who come purposely to see the *Dream*; and therefore seemed the more to deserve to be thus particularized; that should any travellers, induced by taste for the uncommon of Landscape, go to see the beauties of the Dream, they may not omit to seek their way into that solitude, whose musical scenery is rendered more interesting, by the incessant murmurs of that fine cascade.

There is a considerable expanse of beautiful open country near to BEAUFORT CASTLE, and through that, one approaches by the most inviting paths to the
Dream;

Dream; the effects of the fresh verdure of the luxuriant fields one leaves in the spreading valley, is heightened and finely varied by the more rude appearance which the Landscape assumes, when arriving at the ROCKS of KILMORACH.

After entering the DREAM, the road is so cut along the steep sides of the hills, and often runs so near the verge of precipices, that the path of the traveller seems to overhang the river, roaring at the foot of the cliff. On one hand fallen and decaying trees, in all the hoary greatness of neglected age, withered with the waste of years, and whitening in the sun, add wildness and grandeur to the way: while the steep sides of the opposite hills, covered to a considerable height with wood, where the fir, the ash, and birch trees, in various arrangements set off the bold expression of the bare cliffs appearing between, while the masses of the grey rock above, intermingled with the deep purple of the heath which prevails near the summit, give vast variety to the grandeur and colouring of the prospect. In one place the river, taking a sudden turn, sweeps round in the sullen eddies of a gloomy pool, and seems to pause a while in solemn silence, in the shadow of the dark surrounding cliffs;—then of a sudden bursts away into a more straight, but rugged channel, and rushing against the rocks, insulated by its former violence, occasions a deafening roar, while it rages along amid the echoes of the steep cliffs on either hand.

When the river is most swelled with rains, they take advantage of the increased torrent, to float down the timber cut in the woods, on its way to the SAW MILL below. On these occasions, the vast logs of wood, hurled against the rocks, and dashing on each other as they float along the impetuous waves, increase the horrid roar of the waters, and render the surrounding scenes more formidable, and constitute an accompaniment suitably solemn, corresponding with their awfulness and grandeur.

From this wild, majestic scene, a few minutes walk conducts to the opening of the hills, which shews the cheerful prospect of the arable lands around the Saw Mill, and Island of *Agasch*; that rocky island itself forms an object in the scene truly picturesque; the rocks interspersed with trees, with variety of wild herbs and bushes; the kids and goats scrambling up, to browse on the leaves, animating its rugged banks, and a tract of fertile country beyond promising more enlivening repasts, have all a peculiarly interesting and pleasant effect; thus bursting on the view at once, when just emerged from amidst the gloom of the deserted precipices of the Glen. Such transitions yield some of the sweetest recreations which the varied prospect of Nature can afford.

J. Magell. Sculp.

C. Gordon. 1844

ASTACILLÆ, PURPLE DORIS, &c.

THIS very beautiful cluster of Coralines, full of life, and replete with a number of uncommon animals, was this spring dredged up from the coral grounds, a few leagues from the Coast of Banff. They were adhering, as expressed by the drawing, to the deserted shell of a black cockle. The inside of the shell, which is of the purest white, was perfectly fair and clean; it had rested on a fine sand, and was smoothed on the edges, by gliding along its surface with the tide. The quantity of tubular coralines, with the air which they contain when the animals are alive, would render the whole mass easily floated, with the various fluctuations of the ocean. The spring tides must produce more rapid movements in the waters of the sea, to its greatest depths; and by that means such clusters as the above, adhering to shells and stones, are set in motion, which otherwise must have remained still, in one individual place.

Thus the myriads of those animals which inhabit the deep, whose nature it is to have a fixed residence, and no loco-motive power of their own, by their casual disposition in those regions, are made to travel from place to place: being by accidental arrangements assembled on such bodies as the waters give them power to buoy along, they thence enjoy variety of situations in the deep beds of the ocean, perhaps no less necessary, at least, no less salutary and pleasing, than change of air and climate is to terrestrial animals.

One very lively species of little lobsters, which had taken up their dwelling among these coralines, seemed on account of its novelty to merit the attention of a particular drawing.

Their general form and appearance in their natural state, and the size of life, are carefully represented at a, a, a; an elaborate delineation of the microscope, after a minute investigation of the particular structure of its several parts, is inserted above at A. That will more distinctly express to the curious the peculiarities of the animal, than any specific distinctions which could be narrated. The eye appeared as a regular arrangement of bright specks, in circular rows, as at the figure 1.

The diminutive *ASTACILLÆ*, of the general name of Lobsters, is applied at present, as a common characteristic, until one more particularly appropriate may be fixed on to distinguish it by; for these are a species, that do not appear to have been yet recognized among the varieties of British insects.

The most carefully attentive and inquisitive of naturalists, can only be answerable for arranging and distinguishing those species which fall under their notice; and as far as the infinite varieties of life in the deep bed of the ocean are concerned, the most extensive knowledge can be but partially applied; and when at any time undescribed animals are drawn up from thence; it must depend more on the fortunate cast and progress of the hook, the grapnel, and the line, than on any perseverance or anxiety of those, who would wish by that means to attain new subjects of admiration.

The *ASTACILLÆ*, having their residence among the tender corals, which can only spread their beautiful forms in the calm and tranquillity of those regions of the deep, where winter storms never have power to agitate the bottom, they only can be brought ashore with those peculiar clusters of coralines among which they dwell; and the many chances against falling in with any one rare and particular species, in the wide extent of these their dwellings, so remote from human eye, is an obvious cause why many of these have been so long, and may yet remain, undelineated and undescribed.

And had it not been to shew the native manner in which these elegant productions cluster together, the exhibition of them became a kind of necessary appendage to any historical account of the *ASTACILLÆ*, in like manner as it is esteemed part of the history of caterpillars and insects, to specify the plants and trees among which they reside, or on whose leaves they severally feed.

Having never seen any good engraving of the finely feathered *DORIS*, D, and uncertain if there is any to be found, seemed sufficient reason for giving it a place in the annexed plate. These feathers wave in the tide, and aid its progress while it glides along; as it can only creep by alternately extending and contracting the muscular films, which constitute the skin of the under part of its body, its movements by the above are rendered more easy: at the same time, these feathers, from several appearances, seem to involve a system of organs employed for inhaling some degree of nourishment or refreshment from the water.

Every more uncommon variety of Nature, even where peculiar beauty does not attract our notice, is so far engaging, that by the remarks and conclusions which they natively suggest, they have been ever found to afford some of the most refined and interesting pleasures to contemplative minds.

The contributing in any degree to these, is equally flattering to the efforts of genius, as it indulges the most enlarged philanthropy, and most elevated gratitude of the human heart.

St. Maryell. 1. adp.

Concordia. 1. adp.

CATHOLIC SEALS.

Of the HOMAGE paid to the VIRGIN MARY.

ON every Seal belonging to the Cathedrals, Canonries, and Monasteries, established in North Britain, during the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries; that æra, when the Catholic Institutions prevailed, in full influence and splendor; on all the seals, as well as on the other most sacred monuments of the Church, the HOLY VIRGIN is the most distinguished Personage; to HER the Pontiffs kneel, the Saints bend to invoke her name, and adoring Angels guard her throne. She is seated on the most splendid tabernacles, crowned with various diadems, composed of the most hallowed symbols; amidst wreaths of stars and sacred rays, expressive of universal dominion, benevolence, and power.

Some exceedingly interesting speculations of divine Truth must have given rise to so extraordinary an application of the Evangelical records. It may not, therefore, be unworthy of the discerning eye of philosophic enquiry, to examine, by careful and deep research into antiquity, from whence this so surprising veneration sprung.

This subject deserves our attention the more, as the homage in question was not only the well cultivated fruit of popular enthusiasm, but a devotion that arose from tenets of the Church, examined and authorized by men of enlightened understandings, and established with all the wisdom and knowledge, which the sacred Hierarchy could bestow on a subject of such divine importance. Their deep and soaring speculations in the fifth century gave rise to the so celebrated NESTORIAN Controversy, on the event of which the fates of a great part of the Christian world, in the most interesting and momentous point of view, for a long time depended. On the issue of that controverly, NESTORIUS, though highly eminent for the sublimity of his piety and doctrine, and long distinguished as a faithful and studious pastor of the Church, suffered the most humiliating disgrace and banishment, because he would not in his liturgies admit of the VIRGIN MARY's being stiled the "MOTHER OF GOD." While St. CYRIL, equally at least, distinguished for the extent and brightness of his understanding, as for the sincerity and purity of his faith, owed in a great measure, the lasting honour of his canonization—to that zeal wherewith he had defended the indispensable importance of the homage due to the HOLY VIRGIN. This also fixed him in the patriarchal throne of Egypt, where he rivalled the splendor of wearing an imperial diadem. And that defence of the Divinity of the VIRGIN MARY was made by him, and by his followers, with all the light and aid which they could derive from the most daring researches of philosophic knowledge and discernment, applied to the Divine Administrations and Government of the Universe.*

But it is not our purpose in the following illustration, to enter on the arguments wherewith the above doctrine was supported, or whereby it was opposed; but to examine what influence the more hallowed symbols of the EGYPTIAN FANES, and the SACRED MYSTERIES of the Gentile world had, in blending it with the principles of the Evangelical Faith. "To unveil the hidden wisdom of the Holy Oracles, imparted by the primæval hieroglyphics, and to unravel the sacred nature of the communications given in the Mysteries of the Sanctuary; these are the

* See Boyle's Dict.—Art. Nestorius.

“two great points on which our study of antiquity ought to turn, in order to attain
“any adequate knowledge of their Theology.”

This opinion of a great and learned Divine,* equally respectable for extensive erudition, profound discernment, and exalted piety, appears of such real consequence to the developement of the truths of Divinity, which took place in early ages, that it shall be most seriously observed, and with careful attention followed in these lucubrations.

Of all the obstructions to distinct knowledge that occur, when investigating the Theology of Antiquity, the Mysteries of Personification yield the most perplexing labyrinth, in whose deep and intricate windings, it is most difficult to find the perfect way. The Light of Divinity which shines beyond, often scarce, has power to clear away the phantom of the intermediate gloom.

The quotation has already been given from an eminent Antiquarian deeply versed in hieroglyphical wisdom,—“That a beautiful Female, carefess or suckling an Infant was one of the happiest symbols of that KIND AND INTELLIGENT NATURE, which with fond attention to its welfare, nourishes the Universe. This was sculptured on Egyptian Monuments, and placed in their Sanctuaries, as conveying the most grateful idea of that AFFECTIONATE CARE which cherishes the Creation; considered as the offspring of the Supreme Perfection, and under the Guardian-ship of PARENTAL Goodness.

“These sublime ideas of the most momentous principle of Natural Religion, blending with Evangelical Truths, contributed in part to that deep homage, where-
“with the Statues and Paintings of the HOLY VIRGIN were regarded.”

But in ancient Sculptures and Paintings also; and even in the language of the sacred writings corresponding with these, the symbol of the CHURCH of GOD is so characterized, as greatly to resemble the above; and their emblematical attributes are often so blended, that it is difficult to determine to which the allusions are most appropriate.

The abstract idea of the Church of God, or of that system of Divine Truth, the adoption of which constitutes the Communion of the Faithful, when personified, was from earliest ages invested with every symbol held in deepest veneration.

During the reign of hieroglyphical wisdom this was pre-eminently evinced in the mysterious statue of ISIS, which hallowed the Egyptian Fanes. This symbolical Personage, in its sacred and original grandeur, composed of the most precious metals, inwrought with the brightest and most valuable gems, was cloathed with symbols of the patronizing Care, and parental Providence of an all-gracious Deity!—Hieroglyphics of every more sacred aphorism, of every holy law, which the united wisdom of ages had established, was sculptured o’er this mystic Form, and characters, expressive of the Divine Attributes, were written on her vesture;† and this mysterious ISIS became as the Tabernacle where the Word of God was enshrined, the symbolical representation of Providence, and of the Pieties that conciliate the Divine favour.

The ensigns of Eternal Life, and Omnipotence, and other glories of the ineffable Crown, bore allusion to that GREAT BEING, WHICH WAS, AND IS, AND IS

* Bishop Warburton.

† St. James’s Liturgy—Litany of the Holy Virgin of Loretto, &c.

TO COME;* the knowledge of whom as the Universal Parent, was by these communicated in the solemnities of the Temple. And it is evident, how conspicuously these were the original Types of the Mystic Attributes, wherewith the early sculptures of the VIRGIN were invested, as mentioned in the beginning of this Essay.

Moreover, in those ages the sacred Oracles could not be known, but by bending before the Throne of that resplendent Image; it was therefore devoutly revered. When the initiated, in their solemn rites had the illustration of these sacred symbols rehearsed, this being to them, the Revelation of the WORD of GOD, and manifestation of every divine Truth, it could not but excite the deepest veneration; which time had not wholly done away, when the Evangelists were sent forth to proclaim the glad tidings of Salvation; and gave the doctrines of their great Teacher to be a light to lighten the Gentiles.

When, therefore, in the Roman Empire, the Catholic institutions arose in ecclesiastical splendor, o'er the august remains of the ancient Mysteries, in process of time it was judged requisite, by some of the Fathers of the Church, that advantage should be taken of the deep-rooted reverence for the shrines of ISIS, and accommodated in some degree the Evangelical solemnities to the prevailing spirit of Devotion.†

Many of the most learned of the Christian Pastors, saw, with a divine enthusiasm, the Symbols of the Ancient Mysteries, as allegorical types, which prefigured, and bore prophetic allusion to the nature of that homage and adoration, which they were commissioned to offer at the Throne of Heaven; and therefore revived many of the ISIAIC OFFICES, and sublime terms of primæval devotion, in the Hymns and Addresses dedicated to the Mother of our Lord; these all equally express their high origin, and the spirit of that adoration, which was authorized as due.

“To the EVER GLORIOUS VIRGIN, the GUARDIAN of Saints and Angels; the admirable RECORD of Divine Grace; the consecrated TEMPLE of the Divinity, in which is the Throne of God.

“The TABERNACLE of His Word; the RESIDENCE of His Wisdom; the ARK of His Covenant—Incomparably more honourable than the Cherubim and Seraphim
“The Queen of Heaven; and CAUSE of Joy to the whole Creation.”‡

In the ancient Liturgy of the Church of Jerusalem, indeed, we do not find any such Addresses made, nor any such exalted epithets bestowed on the Virgin Mary. But this only leads to an additional testimony to the truth of these Remarks.

In Jerusalem, by a particular dispensation of Providence, the Isiac Rites and Solemnities had been cautiously guarded against. By the profound secrecy observed in them, they often had become involved in Mystery; and by the continuation of obscure ceremonies, wherein the Symbols of the Divinity were exhibited and revered, had been found fraught with all the illusions of Idolatry.

The institutions of Moses, therefore, handed down with hallowed care, and the appointments of the open homage to the Supreme Being, corresponding with these, in the Temple of Jerusalem, excluding all symbolical worship, especially every symbolical figure in the human form, had preserved that most perfect piety, which not only

* Such symbolical representation seems alluded to Rev. xix. 16. † ISIAIC ORACLE.

‡ See Casaubon's 16 Exerc. against Baronius.

prepared the way for a grateful and ready reception of the Christian doctrine, but there the evangelical pastors, and followers of Jesus, found no difficulty in establishing offices of that pure and spiritual homage to a heavenly Father, which he taught; and continued the sublime simplicity of their solemn adorations untainted, and unmingled with any of the superstitious pieties of the Gentile world.

Whereas in the Grecian states, and in the Roman empire, the influence of that veneration in which the Institutes of the Sanctuary of ELUSIS, and the edicts of the DELPHIC ORACLE, were held, rendered it very difficult to combat successfully the deep-rooted devotion expressed in their mysteries, to that Personage which represented the omnipotence and guardian care of Providence, and on whom the oracles of God were pourtrayed, and from whose shrines they were communicated.

Hence at EPHESUS, ages after that statue of Diana, which came down from Heaven,* had been removed from the throne, they recognized their Virgin Patroness in MARY; and saw that the divine enthusiasm and piety of former æras had but propheticall allusion to that happier period of time, when the Queen of Heaven became revealed in all her primæval glory.

Hence the Egyptians, who revered the divine communications of ISIS, as representative of the Church of God, the Guardian and Record of the sacred Oracles, when in the fifth century converted to the Christian faith, were equally astonished and delighted, to see the same homage and veneration required of them, to be paid to the HOLY VIRGIN.† St. AUGUSTINE and CASSIAN, however, more strict in evangelical principle, lament the unconquerable prevalence of that devotion, which still maintained its influence among them, of worshipping the Divinity, as in a human form, notwithstanding the plainness and simplicity of that pure and spiritual homage which their Lord required.

We have a striking instance in the venerable SERAPION, the tutor of St. CYRIL, how serious a concern it was in those days to relinquish the symbols, whereby sacred knowledge was communicated, and by whose aid the glories of the Divine Majesty were revered.

After his conversion he bewailed the awful destiny which had excluded every visible symbol of the Deity from his view; prostrate on the ground, he was heard to exclaim, "Ah! wretched man that I am, I am bereaved of the signs by which I aspired to the knowledge of God—I see not now to whom I address my solemn vows; I know not where to find Him whom I supplicate, nor perceive where are the glories of the Being whom I adore!"——‡

And yet in future more comfortable periods of his evangelical piety, discerned that, in the Holy Oracles of the Messiah, whereby "He shewed us plainly of the Father," there were far more consolatory truths of God imparted, than all that he could have otherwise attained. This at once tends to shew forth the essential moment of the Christian doctrine, and the difficulties it had to encounter when promulgated in the world.

* Acts xix. 35.

† Isidor. l. i. Epist. 54.

‡ Cassian Collat. x. 2.

P. M. G. J. J. J. J.

W. J. J. J. J. J.

CORRIARICH and GLEN-ISSHIA.

A YOUNG Lady of considerable taste and sensibility, who passed over the immense mountain *Corriarich*, on her way from *Fort Augustus* to *Badenoch*, and thence visited *Glen-issia*, has written a very animated description of the journey; and though her letter abounds with more local delineation, and freer sallies of a lively imagination than has been indulged, or perhaps was attainable in these memoirs; yet it seems to form so suitable an accompaniment to the romantic view of the annexed Plate, that it is chosen to supply the place of any other account of it that might be attempted.

“ We understood that our way southward towards the *Athol* mountains and *Dunheld*, was only to be found by crossing the enormous aggregate of hills, called *Corriarich*; the winding ascent unto the summit is said to be not less than nine miles; it towered before us indeed, a prodigious height into the sky.

“ On this bold enterprize, we set out with the earliest morn; the sun shone through the fogs of the lake,* and enlightening the rugged brows of the mountain, seemed to invite us to these higher regions, and a purer sky.

“ We ascended for about an hour and half, by various windings on many a hill, and in passing, looked down into several gloomy glens; they were bordered with cheerless groves of decaying trees, and in their dark recesses the torrents of the mountains held a perpetual roar. Some of these glens seemed to descend to an immeasurable depth, and became resolved into dismal gulphs; one shuddered to look down into the horrible abyss, as into regions of lasting darkness, where the sun beams had never shone.—Some of the gentler declivities of the mountains however, formed a kind of open valleys, which watered by gentler streams, were clothed with fresh verdure, and gave a more cheerful appearance to the tracts of parched heath, and grey tops of the projecting rocks by which they were separated. Looking round the vast tract of mountainous desert, observable from the eminence which we had gained; I was not a little pleased, to observe a hamlet at the foot of a vast cliff, which protected it from the North. Even when there is variety of grandeur in the prospect, the imagination is soon tired with a scene totally void of inhabitants: the humblest cottage affords the idea of some social comfort. On a bench of fods near the door of one, sat an elderly man, but apparently fresh and vigorous; his countenance would have passed for the prime of life, had not his grey hairs indicated its decline. His one arm held a stately goat, which he regarded with apparent affection; others of the flock were gathering near, evidently wishing to share in his attention.—In more favourable climates, where shepherds fed their flocks in richer pastures, and found their opulence increase with their prosperity; we have heard much of their tender attachment towards them. But I did not expect to see so much of the pastoral life, in these bleak and dreary regions. While intent on other interesting circumstances of the hamlet, in this so exalted and solitary situation, I was surprized with the wild music of a plaintive song, uttered in a clear melodious voice, which commanded a mournful attention, and turning round, observed a young damsel in the entrance of a thicket, carelessly leaning her shoulder against a tree; in her hand she held a broken bough, which at times supported her arm, or was waved in air in artless attitudes which varied with the song.

“ Her head and arms were bare; her black locks waved in the wind; over her shoulders hung the corner of a plaid, which seemed slightly bound about her waist; the whole figure was not ungraceful, but full of wildness and rude as the surrounding hills.

“ There are songs of tender melancholy, which seem at unison with the enjoyment of rural scenes; but this was widely different, seemed full of lamentation, of sorrows irretrievably severe, or broken with few intervals of joy: perhaps was a too faithful expression of the dreary vicissitudes of the lot in life to which she was consigned, and of the gloomy grandeur of the scenery to which she was innured. Such situations must unavoidably diffuse a general gloom over the fancy, and greatly cloud the finer affections of the heart.

"The very capacities of enlarged philanthropy, gratitude and joy, must lie in a manner dormant; and an inextinguishable languishment for happier days, continually excite the song of woe: while the rude magnificence of the surrounding scenery, will be constantly imparting something of their own grandeur, to elevate and preserve independent greatness of soul. Such situations have supplied many of the noble and interesting images that dignify the songs of OSSIAN.

"We had still formidable ascents in prospect, and descried the towering summit of the mountain far above, beyond many an intermediate height; it was involved in heavy clouds, and wreathes of mist came rolling down around us. The condensing fogs came floating on the winds with all the coldness and penetrating damp of mingled rain and snow; we shuddered with apprehension of a general rain. On those bleak and dreary mountains, how much are one's spirits in the power of the weather. Should the storm prevail, one is left utterly comfortless and forlorn. Were night to fall down with all its shades, the phantoms of the desert would be truly formidable: broken rocks and blasted pines, withered with age and moss, seen by the glimpse of the moon; while the roar of torrents, and unequal gales of wind howling around, would play some ghastly measures on the ear;—how easily could imagination hear, "The spirit of the mountain shriek, and see the ghosts of the departed, "becoming from the passing cloud."

"Those chilling blasts that overshadowed our way, and impressed us deeply with all the terrors of the dreary, though so elevated solitude, were fortunately of no long duration; we soon got beyond the clouded region, and saw the misty volumes floating down to the valleys, and encircling the lower hills; and e'er we reached the summit, had the pleasure of looking round us in an unclouded sky. The prospect was now immense, full of transporting sublimity; the whole horizon round was an arrangement of distant mountains, far beyond all possible enumeration, immeasurably extended both to the Western isles, and to the Eastern shore. The intermediate clouds concealing some tracts of country, and in others scattered and seeming to support the loftier hills, gave noblest expression of the immense extent of the lower world that was in view; a scene of such boundless magnificence, now lighted up under an azure heaven, and basking in the blaze of the meridian day, was perfectly enchanting; our minds share the sublimity of a prospect partaking so much of infinitude, and we feel some wonderful relations to a universe without boundary or end.

"At the foot of a rock which crowns this highest mount, there is a well built round with hewn stones, with seats adjacent cut out of the solid rock. It seems an intimation to the hardy traveller, that now his labour's o'er, he may rest a while, and take refreshment by the limpid stream!

"Our descent into the opposite plain * was equally rapid and pleasing.

"Through the deep groves of the forest of *Inverispha*, we were conducted by winding paths, amid stately trees, unto the entrance of the glen; here the wooded forest ends, but opens a scene of surprising grandeur and beauty. The precipices that are the boundaries of the glen, are little else than lofty naked cliffs, of the most picturesque form imaginable: a number of torrents which stream from the higher parts of the mountains, are here poured with impetuosity over the precipice, and dashing down from shelve to shelve, broken with all the wild varieties of rock, and foaming in their fall, exhibit some of the most romantic cascades imaginable.

"Here and there some venerable pines wave among the rocks, and seemed to watch over the incessant murmur of the torrents, as they hasten their confluence with the central rivulet; while wreathes of birch trees adorn the gentler declivities, where the foundations of the precipices stretch into the bottom of the glen. Had I seen a faithful painting of some of the more remarkable parts of the scenery of the glen, I should have admired the ingenuity of the artist's fancy, but could not have supposed it a representation of the real features of nature; indeed the whole was a spectacle so extraordinary and unexpected, as I thought could not be sufficiently admired.

"After long sharing in the pleasing enthusiasm which these wilds impart, I left them with regret."

* GARAVA-MORE, the environs of RUTHVEN CASTLE, and rout to INVERISSA, are next described, but have been already sufficiently particularized.

J. Mayall sculp.

C. G. D. 1850

GOthic CHURCH, ABERDEEN.

IN the flourishing periods of the Ecclesiastical State in NORTH BRITAIN, when the splendor of the catholic establishments were the pride and glory of the nobility, ample donations of lands were made to the Church for public buildings, for the aggrandizement of the altars, and those who ministered at them. The pious and charitable purposes to which these donations were evidently appropriated, were flattering to the devotion and beneficence of the donors; and they were persuaded that, by these sacrifices in support of a religion with which the maintenance of the poor was intimately connected, they would not fail to conciliate the divine approbation and favor.

By the revolutions of religious principle which pervaded Scotland two centuries ago, that sacred zeal completely evaporated; at least, its direction was altogether changed.

When by a remarkably serious combination of circumstances, the greater simplicity of worship adopted, rendered superfluous the numerous buildings that had been erected for the dignified clergy; the lands devoted to them were again resumed by the knights and nobles, as the reward of the active part they took in the Reformation. Thus the palaces of degraded bishops, deanries, &c. deprived of their exiled protectors, were left to irretrievable ruin: The finances which had supported their state, soon as understood to be applicable to secular purposes, became attainable prizes in the lottery of life, and were seized on through various pretences, and irrevocably retained by all those who had sufficient power in arms, or interest with administration, to make good the justice of their claim.

It was, but in a little more moderate manner, accomplishing a devastation and rapine, similar to what has of late been perpetrating in France. Such are the revolutions to which all human institutions are liable.

The barbarous policy adopted as a most efficient council, of destroying the buildings, that they might the more completely reform the worship, prevailed to the destruction of abbies, monasteries, and many cathedrals. The popular proverb of the Presbyterian preachers was, "destroy the nests, and the rooks will fly away." The revenues of the Church, however, once allocated, some of the places of worship were allowed to remain undemolished, and escaped the general ruin.

The external structure of the fine Gothic building, represented by the annexed plate, is preserved in a great measure entire, though long ago despoiled of its internal decorations.

The plate, paintings, statues, tapestries, and all the splendid enrichments of the altar, offered to sacrilegious hands a ready prey, and were alienated on the specious pretext of having favoured superstitions, no longer held consistent with the pure homage to be offered to the Supreme.

This majestic Edifice would be looked on as a venerable fane in any country, or in any age: Its character is that of plain magnificence; not loaded with decorations of sculpture; its grandeur and simplicity at once awe and charm the spectator. The lofty projection of the east end, which encompassed the grand altar; and is the front of the present view, still imparts, by its massy greatness, some idea of the solemnity with which it was the desire of the builders these sanctuaries should fill the mind.

It was a noble and exalted opinion at the time, that swayed the councils of the learned and the wise: That the solemnities of the altar became a renewal of the manifestations of the DIVINE PRESENCE in the world; and that, therefore, the Sanctuary, wherein was preserved the memorials of this holy light, the Tabernacle of the living bread that came down from Heaven, the repository of the record of the

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the words of Eternal Life, and residence of the SYMBOLS of GOD, should be surrounded with every external ensign of the veneration due to the consecrated abode, whence beamed some virtual communications of the OMNIPOTENCE of the DEITY. They emphatically applied the hallowed behest from on High : " In all places where I record my NAME, I will come unto thee, and I will bless thee" *.

Amid the revolutions of property which the abolition of the Catholic Establishments occasioned, it was one of the happiest, that many of the buildings, with the excellent gardens and orchards belonging to them, which had been devoted to monastic orders, were converted by George, Earl Marshal of Scotland†, (who had become Superior, or proprietor of them) into a foundation for establishing a college or seminary of learning, where the literature and sciences most useful to the rising generation, might be inculcated and taught. This institution, so valuable and important to the country, met with universal approbation, and the Earl's judicious and liberal example was followed by many ample donations; so that now, through the munificence of its patrons, and under royal protection, the MARISCHAL COLLEGE ranks as a University; where, along with the sciences and experimental philosophy, knowledge of medicine, and the Oriental languages, are taught.

It is a good proposal, now in agitation, to add Lectures on Agriculture and Botany to the general course of education. That the former should be understood on scientific principles, is of high importance to the improvement of the country. Botany is intimately connected both with agriculture and medicine: knowledge of that must prove of great consequence to all who are to spend their lives in the country. The general body of the Clergy, as well as the proprietors of landed estates, are therefore particularly interested in the success of these studies.

Besides, the sons of farmers, by the easy terms on which attendance at the College is obtained, can easily acquire that useful instruction, which might prepare their minds for a more judicious application of their industry and talents.

The more general diffusion of knowledge, and of the experience from whence it is derived, must confer superior advantages on youth in all the different walks of life. The prosperity of a commercial city even is promoted by such a Seminary of Learning.

The study of Literature, Science, and Philosophy, open and enlarge the mind; inspire it with more extensive views, and will not only kindle the spirit of enterprize with an ardour that surpasses the mere calculation of loss and gain, but, where interest is the only object, points out the surest paths by which it is attained, and opens new avenues of acquiring those emoluments which an active commerce so wonderfully supplies.

The public welfare is therefore very effectually consulted, when such establishments are so constituted as to afford an easy and inviting opportunity of a liberal education to as many youth as possible. It is unnecessary to add how much this is the case in those northern Universities.

* Exod. xx. 24.

† Anno 1593.

C. Gordon, per. X.

J. Mayell Sculp.

PEACOCKS FEATHER CORALLINE, &c.

Published on the 2nd January, 1824, by J. G. & J. W. B. Kingman, No. 12, Broad Street, London.

Peacock's Feather Coralline, &c.

TO what end such infinite variety of contrivance and design should embellish the coral groves of the ocean, that are never visited by man: Why such excellence of structure, such elegance of form, should have been bestowed on productions which lie so remote, almost for ever hid from rational spectators? Why displays of an all-pervading infinite perfection, should be unfolding, in the unfathomable recesses of the great and wide sea, and its deep inaccessible beds be paved with fabrics of such incomparable beauty?—These are mysteries in the Divine Government and order of Providence, which we shall never, here, be able fully to explore.

'Tis enough for us to have been rendered capable of revering the incomprehensible secrets that reign in the councils, which preserve and beautify the universe.

Although innumerable productions of the deep lie for ever hid from our view, yet, human curiosity has devised variety of means of attaining rich stores of these subjects of admiration, wherewith the submarine regions teem; and thereby seems to co-operate with some great scheme of Nature, gradually to unfold a perpetual care bestowed on those wonderful forms of life, which by their novelty cherish a rational enthusiasm and delight.

And it is no trivial reflection, that by the capacities wherewith we are endued, our extensive connection with the system is such, that every form of beauty which adorns the earth, or embellishes the depths of the sea, are rendered subservient to human entertainment, and minister to our pleasure and joy.

The principal coral of the Plate, whose branches, with their cells, bear strong resemblance to the cups and foliage of flowers, was part of a large mass dredged up in the North Seas; and being protected from external injuries during the carriage and bringing ashore, by strong thick-wrought branches of the same species, exhibited on its surface variety of beautiful corallines and tender shells, which are not perhaps to be found in any other situation. The thorny shell, *a*, so elegantly winding round the coral, has not been heretofore accurately delineated, nor indeed at all figured among those of this northern ocean:—The same observation seems applicable to several other species wherewith the cluster abounds.

The minute Shell and Coralline at *b-1*. and a little magnified at *b*, *b*, *b*, and the beautiful incrustation formed by the spreading cells *c*, *c*, demand particular notice in this respect.

Notwithstanding the elaborate research and investigations of the late justly celebrated Mr. ELLIS, and the immense variety of corals and corallines described by him, innumerable orders of other forms seem to replenish the depths of the ocean, and are now and then occurring among the clusters, which fall under our examination here.

Many of the cells of the corallines, which form the highly ornamental encrustations of the coral, pretty nearly correspond with several species of *FLUSTRA*, particularized and delineated by him, as at *d*, *d*, *d*, *d*; but that exceedingly beautiful one, on the branch *c*, *c*; and highly magnified by careful inspection with the first powers of the microscope, at *c*, surely had never been met with by
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him,

him, else its peculiar elegance of structure would doubtless have so far attracted his notice, that he would not have failed to have given an accurate representation of it in his plates. As it is, therefore, here first delineated, and the memorial of its peculiar structure preserved by the engraving, it is characterized, "PEACOCK'S FEATHER CORALLINE;" for the resemblance it bears to that beautiful plumage is more than merely fanciful.

Every specific distinction which may discriminate individuals among that endless diversity of engaging forms of cells, which these wonderful artificers produce, becomes an addition to the arrangements in their general history, and widens the scope of our admiration; which, however kindled, is the most pleasing fruit, that philosophical discernment of their various structure and beauty can afford.

There is a species of very minute and tender bivalve, b-1, which adheres to the sides of the coral tubes by a kind of short stalk. This stalk supports the under shell like a cup, after (on the death of the animal) the upper one has fallen away. In these cups, the young corals of the more diminutive and delicate orders, seem to find a favourable residence to rear their infant tubes. In some, the first shoots of sponges were beginning to weave the intricate mazes of their web. In the one exhibited in the plate, a very beautiful cluster of corals occupied the whole cavity; the tubular cells, disposed with great symmetry in circular rows, produced a very pleasing and ornamental effect. The tubes are all connected at their bases, as observable in the magnified representation B; and they spread at the mouth into five thorny points, to protect the cell; the various appearances which they exhibited in several different points of view, are shewn by the figures at E, E. These small shells, with their usual contents, are generally so brittle, that the least inattentive pressure would crush them to powder; so that it is probable they could exist no where but in those close grottos wrought by the strong surrounding coral, and consequently are no where else to be found.

It is therefore to be esteemed so far fortunate, to have such large stores of these corals at hand, wherein to search for new and uncommon species; and it may be readily trusted, that this engaging research will not be neglected.

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 off Lunde 210

Magell's ship

Magell's ship

Mysteries, Personification of Events, Truths, &c.

IT may obviously occur in looking into these Memoirs of Antiquities, that it is not merely the plain delineation of the fragments of Ancient Seals, which is the principal object here in view: the pleasure of the research into the more remote references of the sculptures on them, has been also much indulged.

The more obvious allusions of symbolical figures are greatly aggrandized, by a careful investigation of the Archetypes, from whence they have been originally derived.

As many of these have been handed down through successive ages, accompanied with various illustration of their primæval imports; it is one important view of Antiquarian study, to collect some of the scattered rays of light, which fortunately now and then occur to cheer the bewildered fancy, while it wanders in the labyrinth of oriental metaphor.

As many of the Catholic monuments in every country, have their embellishments borrowed from the more antient symbols used in the religious rites of the Gentile world, so all these had their origin in the TEMPLES OF EGYPT, that wonderful source of science and theology.

The developement of the hidden analogies, which the antient rites and symbols bore to matter of fact, and to divine truth, of which but imperfect memorials have come down to our times, seem to open a source of interesting speculation.

The following enquiry may happily lend a KEY to some of the MYSTIC DOORS, through which we obtain a glimpse of the ARCANÆ, which prevailed in the Antient mysteries.

Previously, however, to remark the affinity, and concurrence of design, between EMBLEMATICAL REPRESENTATION, and SYMBOLICAL DESCRIPTION, and a careful observation of the relations which they bear to each other, may aid our research amid the scanty annals, which light our dubious way into the Adyta of the primæval Temples.

Some observations which spontaneously arose from the peculiarity of the sculptures on one of the Seals already engraved, compared with an elegy on the early fate of the Episcopal Church in Scotland, seems to promise the wished for illustration, and to be particularly favourable to the above purpose.

On one of the Seals of the Cathedral described in No. 20,—“ A venerable female reclining on a couch, in a languishing attitude, by stretching forth her apparently feeble hand, seems pathetically to complain of her declining state. By the pale light of a decaying lamp, she makes her lamentation to a dejected old man, in a scarce less feeble estate, in pensive posture, leaning on his staff, and evidently sharing in the female’s woes.”

Without commenting much on the case, how appropriately these figures might represent the then sickly constitution of the church, and the griefs of the Pontiff; it is enough to mention that the period was arrived, when its mournful state might have been so characterized; and another was fast approaching, when it sunk under accumulation of misfortune and ruin.

At that period when administration permitted the prevailing enthusiasm, under sanction of law, to violate and abolish the episcopal establishments; some of the Catholic Clergy vented their sorrows in a truly classic page, * of which the following extract only is produced, as peculiarly connected with the subject in view.

Attend to this tale of woe, and shed a pitying tear;
 Our venerable parent, from maternal glory fall'n,
 Lies entomb'd amid the ruins of the ecclesiastical pile;
 Alas! alas! for our best beloved of blessed memory:
 † In MDCLXXXVIII she mournfully declin'd:
 ‡ In MDCCVII, ah! me! benum'd in every nerve;
 Her vital powers lost all their active energy.
 At length depressed by numberless cruelties, and worn out with woe:
 All pitying heaven!
 She sunk into the grave.
 Ye Saints and Sages, all ye children of her care!
 Pray that she rest in peace;

—Or rather—That SHE REVIVE AGAIN IN GLORY!

It must be kept in view, that the only reason of selecting this extract, is on account of the expressive example of personification which it contains.

An additional supposition must be indulged, because, in its ultimate allusion, the case was real.

Had the wished for restoration of the Church to its state of early splendour, providentially taken place, and let the personification be continued, with suitable attributes of hallowed dignity and grandeur; and we shall see the revered guardian of the light and truth raised to a throne of glory, according to the conclusive prayer of the epitaph: and have therein an obvious and excellent illustration of the nature of these mystical personages, celebrated, lamented, sought for, and rejoiced in by the Gentile solemnities: and hence perceive with striking evidence, that they only existed in the commemorative symbols of events that had occurred, or of truths that had been revered.

'Twas thus the more distinguished epochs of sacred history, represented in the ancient solemnities of religion; and important events that had been long celebrated with all the symbolical pomp which characterized the holy rites of Egypt: when they were transferred into the Grecian States, by those eminent men who first promoted religious establishments there; although for a while their primæval moment

* The Latin is printed at length in SHAW'S Ecclesiast. Hist. Moray † Act for abolishing Episcopacy in Scotland. ‡ Articles of the Union establishing Presbyterianism, &c.

was understood, especially by those who had been initiated into the MYSTERIES in Egypt: yet in succeeding ages, when represented with more attention to the external ceremonies, than to the sublime communications which they had involved; the whole easily became resolveable into the marvellous story of some very remarkably distinguished person thereby commemorated.

But this shall finally be more fully elucidated in the progress of a comment on the figures sculptured on the seal of the annexed plate, marked **Initiation**.

“ It evidently represents some formidable ceremony in a sacred place, where a
 “ Pontiff presides in state; one hand on his breast, expressive of seriousness, the other
 “ stretched out at a right angle, holding a rod and cross, the badge of high office,
 “ while he makes some awful appeal respecting a suppliant, who, in a loose robe, blind-
 “ folded, with seeming terror, kneels before the steps of an altar, as undergoing some
 “ severe humiliation; while several attendants with drawn swords, brandished them over
 “ his head”. As some explanation of the above, it may be observed that there is a remarkable concurrence of design and resemblance of persons and attitudes, in the figures of the above seal, with those in a print accompanying a pamphlet on MASONRY, published by an officer at Berlin; and this is the more worthy of notice, because he there gives an account of the ceremonies of initiation; and the prints are apposite representations of them. That which exhibits the manner of administering the tremendous oath of secrecy, and of receiving the rudiments of the occult science, at the communication of the first beams of LIGHT, is a pretty exact counterpart of the figures on the seal of the plate; and the prostrate person in both, brings to remembrance a description which Plutarch in his famous Essay “*DE OSIRIS*,” gives of the engraving of a Seal, which the Priests of Isis used in their solemnities, viz. that of a “*MAN KNEELING, WITH HIS HANDS BOUND, A KNIFE AT HIS THROAT, &c.*”

And it is not a little remarkable, which is more to the present purpose, in how many particulars, the mysterious fate of OSIRIS, as recorded by the above celebrated author, corresponds with the accounts of HIRAM, given in the mentioned pamphlet, a strong insinuation that the annals of the latter, however mutilated and defaced, have some how or other, been descended from the *Elucianian Mysteries*! and that the MASONIC rites of admission into a LODGE, are a faint sketch, an imperfect epitome, of the august ceremonies which took place at INITIATION into the secrets which hallowed the PRIMEVAL FANES: and this high origin, when discerned may have, been at the bottom of that general respect, which men of learning have avowed for them.†

This subject, as an amusing research into antiquity, may be resumed; it only remains at present to specify,

That HYRAM ‡ coming forth in hallowed dignity of character, from within the veil of the sanctuary; violated in the open Temple of the World, by the ignorant

* The other Seal of LINDORES, with the Autograph of the Abbot's hand writing, representing the Holy Virgin, and Homage paid to the WORD OF GOD manifested in human form, needs no illustration here.

† See Mr. LOCK' Letter on the Subject, &c.

‡ The Light.

and prophane : concealed for a time in awful secrecy : the want of his presence pathetically deplored. The ardent solemnity wherewith he is sought for ; the acclamation of joy at finding him again, and consequent discovery of the **Word**, almost of itself developes the secret which the personification had involved

All this moreover, is no dubious echo of the clouded glory of **OSIRIS**'s dawning reign : his appearing as the **LIGHT** of the World, a universal benefactor. The humiliation and indignities which he suffered from a degenerated race of men ; the dread and darkness which his retirement into unknown regions of the universe occasioned. The lamentations for his absence, so awefully solemnized in **EGYPT**, and at **ELUSIS** : and the eager search of woe, wherein they wearied themselves on their sacred rites to find him.

The marvellous tale of discovering him in an *Arc*, of admirable workmanship : his being clothed with authority and power, through the Halleluiahs of the Sanctuary ! and uttering holy oracles, which impart a divine, a heavenly life to man : while he receives more than mortal praise, by the offices of homage prescribed in honour of his name : all his resolveable into principles and inferences exceedingly divine. Through the substantial veil of metaphor, wherewith this mysterious personage is invested, there is indubitably disclosed, the most sublime allusion to the **MANIFESTATIONS** of the **SUPREME BEING** in the World ; and hence we must unavoidably infer, that the whole train of Symbolical ceremonies, which celebrated the various fate and influence of the **HOLY ORACLES**, arose from the native attributes of a **PERSONIFICATION** of the **WORD** of **GOD** !

“ By the bold imagery of oriental description, the **LIGHT OF TRUTH** obtained a “ local habitation and a name.”

The mystical **BODY** of Divinity, lodged in an *Arc*, preserved in the **ADYTA** of the Temples, was only on solemn occasions, communicated to a chosen few, was therefore often misrepresented in the world ; yet the knowledge of it, difficult to attain, was ardently aspired after ; for it was declared full of consolation to the human mind, when found.

When the duly initiated joined, in “ Weeping for Tammuz, * or mourned for the absence of **OSIRIS**, the **LIGHT OF LIFE** ; perhaps it was in awful piety to solemnize the dark and hopeless estate of being **WITHOUT GOD IN THE WORLD** : and the sacred song of joy, when the glory of that light is restored ! was the lofty hymn of adoration ; wherewith the Sanctuary should resound, when the virtual sense of an universal Guardian, whose providential goodness regulates all things, is with heartfelt gratitude acknowledged.

These are but some scattered fragments of a great design, which may in time be farther unfolded to view.

* Ezekiel viii. 14.

The PALACE of HOLYROOD HOUSE.

"THIS magnificent fabrick, as it at present stands, was reared in the reign of Charles II. There has often been remarked in it a striking resemblance to the palace at Hampton Court. It is of a quadrangular form. The Church fills out one side of the square. The other side and the back are completed by buildings of a more modern date. The court in the centre is most beautiful and spacious, surrounded with elegant piazzas. The imperial crown on the little cupola above the door is formed of stone, but cut in a neat and very masterly manner.

The apartments possessed by the Duke of Hamilton occupy all that remains of the old Palace.

In the second floor are Queen Mary's apartments, in one of which her own bed still remains. It is of crimson damask bordered with green silk tassels and fringes. The cornice of the bed is open figured work in the present taste. The embroidery on the bed and chairs is said to be chiefly the work of Mary's own fingers. Considering the age of the furniture, it is astonishing to see it so little decayed. The Keeper of the palace has great merit for the excellent repair in which these apartments are preserved.

Towards the outward door of the Chamber of Presence, there are in the floor some large dusky spots, said to have been occasioned by Rizzio's blood staining the floor, which washing of the boards has not been able to take out. Many tales are handed down concerning them, which have no claim to probability. But the tradition of the fact has been so uniform that there can be no doubt of its truth.

Those chambers which are called the Royal Apartments, occupy three sides of the square on the first floor. On the north is a spacious gallery upwards of 120 feet in length, but no ways proportioned in height. It is hung all over with portraits of a race of an hundred and eleven monarchs, through an imaginary series of upwards of two thousand years. They are very poorly executed. Most of them are hacked and flashed, and of many large pieces are cut out. This was the work of General Hawley's troops after the defeat of the King's army at Falkirk.

In one suit of rooms, the walls are wainscoted with oak; the festoons of flowers and foliage over the doors and mantle-pieces are well executed; but the stucco ornaments of the roofs, similar to all those of that period, are very heavy.

The apartments on the side of the square have never been finished but in a very pitiful manner. They are made use of as lumber rooms for some of the nobility, who have lodgings within the palace.

A very plausible scheme was sometime ago proposed for applying these unoccupied and extensive domes to the accommodation of the University. But the foundation of that very magnificent building, the New College, has, for the present, put a stop to these commendable designs. It is, however, a subject of regret, that such immense sums should be lavished in raising new structures, and that the old ones so finely adapted for the purpose should remain waste, and go to decay for want of being used.

The environs of the palace afford an asylum for Insolvent Debtors. Adjoining to it, there is an extensive park, first enclosed by James V. all of which is a sanctuary.

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The Abbey of Holyrood House was founded by King David I. in the year 1128. From the endowments of David and of succeeding sovereigns, it became the most opulent religious foundation in Scotland. The chapel, the only part of the building which can lay claim to antiquity, is above 600 years old. Through the ignorance of an architect, it is now deprived of a roof, and in a very ruinous condition. In 1756, the church was covered with so great a weight of stones, that it fell in about ten years afterwards. It has long been despoiled of all its valuable ornaments. Nothing now remains unravaged, save a few fragments of its once royal owners. I saw in an open vault a few uncomplete sets of bones, the remains of some of our ancient monarchs; among these the gigantic arm and thigh bones of Lord Darnley; which bear testimony of the stupendous size of that unfortunate man. In the bellfry is to be seen a well executed marble monument and statue reclining at full length of Robert Lord Belhaven, who died in the year of our Lord 1639.

Several residents make very genteel perquisites by shewing visitors the curiosities of the Palace. Each has a separate department, and must, of consequence, have a distinct compensation.

The palace is one of those places which is visited by every stranger; and to the intelligent mind, it certainly affords a subject of very delicate entertainment. Yet many, even well educated people, have lived all their lives in Edinburgh, and never entered within its venerable walls.

There are two remarkable hills near to this place called Arthur's-seat, and Salisbury-craigs. The name of the former is supposed to be derived from Arthur, the British Prince, who, in the end of the 6th century, defeated the Saxons in that neighbourhood; and the latter to take their name from the Earl of Salisbury, who, in the reign of Edward III. accompanied that Prince in an expedition against the Scots.

Arthur's-seat, the largest of these hills, rises by a steep and rugged ascent 'till it terminates in a rocky point, 700 feet high from the base. On the South, it is in many parts a perpendicular rock, composed of natural pillars, regularly pentagonal, or hexagonal, about three feet in diameter, and from forty to fifty feet high.

Upon the west are Salisbury Craigs, which present to the city an awful front of broken rocks and precipices, forming a sort of natural amphitheatre of solid rock. Among these rocks are rich ores, spar, and great variety of rock plants; so that they are an excellent field for the Naturalist. Sometimes, also, amethysts and other precious stones have been found amongst them. But the rocks themselves are far more valuable, affording an inexhaustible supply of hard stone for paving the streets; and of these stones considerable quantities are sent for paving the streets of London."

Alte Talsperre

C. G. Schuler del.

LOCH LOMOND.

THE first view from *Tarbat*, of the most beautiful of the *Caledonian* lakes, presents an extensive serpentine winding amidst lofty hills: on the north, barren, black, and rocky, which darken with their shade that contracted part of the water.

On the West side, the mountains are clothed near the bottoms with woods of oak quite to the water edge; their summits lofty, naked, and craggy.

On the east side, the mountains are equally high, but the tops form a more even ridge parallel to the lake, except where *Ben Lomond*, like *Saul*, amidst his companions, overtops the rest. The upper parts were black and barren; the lower had great marks of fertility, or at least of industry, for the yellow corn was finely contrasted with the verdure of the groves intermixed with it.

“ THE road runs sometimes through woods, at others is exposed and naked; in some so steep as to require the support of a wall; the whole the work of the soldiery: Blessed exchange of instruments of destruction for those that give safety to the traveller, and a polish to the once inaccessible native.

A great headland covered with trees separates the first scene from one totally different. On passing this cape an expanse of water bursts at once on your eye, varied with all the softer beauties of Nature. Immediately beneath is a flat covered with wood and corn: beyond, the headlands stretch far into the water, and consist of gentle risings; many have their surfaces covered with wood, others adorned with trees loosely scattered either over a fine verdure, or the purple bloom of the heath. Numbers of islands are dispersed over the lake of the same elevated form as the little capes, and wooded in the same manner, others just peep above the surface, and are tufted with trees; and numbers are so disposed as to form magnificent vistas between.

Opposite *Luss*, at a small distance from shore, is a mountainous isle almost covered with wood; it is near half a mile long, and has a most fine effect. I could not count the number of islands, but was told there are twenty eight; the largest two miles long, and stocked with deer.

The length of this charming lake is twenty-four *Scotch* miles, its greatest breadth eight: its greatest depth a hundred and twenty fathoms.

The country from *Luss* to the southern extremity of the lake continually improves; the mountains sink gradually into small hills; the land is highly cultivated, well planted, and well inhabited. I was struck with rapture at a sight so new to me: it would have been without alloy, had it not been dashed with the uncertainty whether the mountain virtue, hospitality, would flourish with equal vigour in the softer scenes upon which I was about to enter; for in the *Highlands* every house gave welcome to the traveller.

The vale between the end of the lake and Dunbarton is unspeakably beautiful, very fertile, and finely watered by the great and rapid river *Levin*; the discharge of the lake, which, after a short course, drops into the Firth of *Clyde* below Dunbarton: there is scarcely a spot on its banks but what is cultivated with bleacherics, plantations, and villas. Nothing can equal the contrast in this day's journey, between the black barren dreary

dreary glens of the morning ride, and the soft scenes of the evening, islands worthy the retreat of *Armida*, and which *Rinaldo* himself would have quitted with a sigh."

"Once more we come within sight of the charming Loch Lomond.

Approach its shores, go through the narrow pass of *Bualmacha*, where the Grampian hills finish in the lake. Many of the isles run in a line with, and seem to have been a continuation of them; appearing like so many fragments rent from them by some violent convulsion. Arrive in a beautiful bay; the *bræs* of the hills on the right are lofty: some filled with small pebbles; others have a ferruginous look. The islands are mountainous and exhibit variety of charms. *Inch-Calloch*, or the Isle of Nuns, has upon it the remains of a church, is finely wooded, and is said to have been the seat of the fair *Recluses*. *Inch-Murrin*, or the Isle of St. Murrinus, is two miles long, is a deer park, and has upon it the ruins of a house once belonging to the family of *Lenox*.

Various other islands grace this magnificent piece of water: *Inch-Lonaig* of great extent is blackened with the deep green of yews. A ruined castle upon *Inch-Galbraith* is inhabited by the Osprey; and several little low and naked isles serve to diversify the scene. From this spot the boundaries of the water are magnificent and distinct; the wooded side of the western; and the soaring head of Ben Lomond on the eastern, form a view that is almost unequalled.

The top of this great mountain is composed of a micaceous slate, mixed with quartz. The *sibbaldia procumbens*, a plant unknown in England, grows upon the upper part. Ptarmigans inhabit its summit; and roes the woods near its base; the most southern resort of these animals in our island.

The height in Ben Lomond from the surface of the lake, is three thousand, two hundred and forty feet; the prospect from the summit, of vast extent; the whole expanse of Loch Lomond with its wooded isles, appears just beneath.

Cordia pauciflora

Cordia pauciflora

LACE CORALINE.

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LACE CORAL

WHEN delineations of these beautiful subjects of microscopic attention attract our notice or kindle our admiration, we can scarce fail to recur to Mr. *Ellis* in illustration of these remarks, which their uncommon elegance or peculiarity of structure may suggest. He is so justly celebrated for his elaborate care in investigating and describing the several species of these wonderful productions, that no apology is requisite for quoting his observations, with such comment as may ascertain those particulars, of which the specimen he examined did not give him opportunity of having adequate information.

Both in the *Essay on Coralines*, and in his more general work the *Natural History of Zoophytes*, he has taken notice of this very beautiful coral: He mentions it under the title of the LACE-MILLEPORE; "Formed like a net, funnel shaped, and irregularly waved, and plaited in the margin.—The under part is quite smooth between the openings, but the upper surface is full of cells, which are disposed in a regular quincunx order."—

He adds, "That although this elegant little coral is found now and then on our Coast, we cannot boast of these beautiful forms that we find in specimens from the Mediterranean.

"Ours are generally funnel shaped, but the foreign are more loosely folded and waved."

The remark with respect to the superior beauty of this kind of Coral from the Mediterranean, had been made only in consequence of the few specimens of these found in the British Seas, which he had seen. The one delineated in the plate of the vi Number, shews that those of our Northern coasts, yield not in point of variety and elegance of folds to any foreign ones; yet many more ample, complex, and beautiful ones, were dredged up within a few leagues of these shores, and were esteemed no inconsiderable addition to the *Portland Cabinet*.

It moreover would appear that Mr. *Ellis* had not seen specimens of this coral, sufficiently recent from the sea, to enable him to discriminate the peculiar structure of the cells, or even ascertain their general form. The mouths of the cells and the bristles wherewith they are surrounded, are so exceedingly delicate and tender, as to be easily crushed with the smallest pressure, and even in a little time fall away with the effect of drying alone. This makes it of the first consequence to a faithful drawing to find specimens which have not been exposed to either of these injuries. Those from whence the drawings by the microscope were taken, which are exhibited in the plate, were quite infant ones, minute as that on the branch of Coral at a. They had obtained a perfect safety by being lodged in the cavities among the thick wrought branches of massy coral, and examined in these their native retirements, disclosed all their beauty. The appearance of part of a. when first magnified, is represented at a-1. and a single point of it put under the highest powers of the microscope, gave more accurately the form and orderly arrangement of the cells, as at A. The myriads of Artificers for ever employed in
working.

working this lace in coral groves, can hardly be reflected on without emotions of astonishment at their wonderful destination. The elegance of the other specimens adhering to the tubular coralline, was sufficient inducement to add them; the manner of branching out, and arrangement of the brittle pipes of which that at e. is composed, is more distinctly expressed at E. on account of its seeming different from any yet figured among the British Corals.

Various flustra are often found cloathing the surface of the corals, as on the branch of the plate at b—a specimen of their cells are given magnified at B. The forms of the other might have been delineated or described, but their appearance is so correspondent with those corallines, which rear up and spread the layers of their cells like thin leaves, and are in that form called *sea mats*; of which the *Bombycina** is a striking instance of resemblance to that at B. Thus it would seem, that the same Animals can either build their cells on the surface of a stone or coral, or rear them up into detached foliage, when they do not find a suitable subject to which they can adhere.—As the Corallines in the form of leaves, are frequently cast ashore, it has given opportunity of their having been often examined; and the various structure of their cells have been already minutely ascertained by Mr. Ellis. Notwithstanding, therefore, these mentioned are very beautiful subjects, it was unnecessary to exhibit them anew, although assuming appearances somewhat different, when thus formed running along the branches of the larger Coral.

The endless diversity of form, and appropriate singularities, whereby the several species are distinguished, all so amazingly adjusted to useful ends conspicuously in view, and disclosing an apparently ever active infinitude of skill employed in the modification of that universal life wherewith they are actuated, afford a perpetual source of surprise and pleasure in the examination of them: Reason and Piety are delightfully exercised, by investigating the displays of wise design which pervade the unexplored regions of the deep:—the wonderful properties of Nature seen unfolding there, with unusual elegance and beauty, supply us with a Philosophic entertainment of the most elevating kind; for beauty and excellence whenever admired, add to the parent enjoyments of Human Life.

The selecting of these more interesting productions of Nature, which cultivate that discernment, ought therefore to be esteemed a beneficial as well as amusing care, and its prevalence among those of more refined taste, cannot be better evinced than by the numerous collections of the subjects of Natural History which enrich the Cabinets of the curious:—To those persons who are not in possession of these, good Drawings and Descriptions very effectually supply their places.

* Natural History of Zoophytes, tab. 4, fig. B.

DISCE MORI ELENACHAI
 PYUSIOPUS FIERI FECTT

P. Hagedorn, Leipzig

CALEDONIAN and EGYPTIAN SYMBOLS

Compared, &c.

ONCE more we shall have recourse to Oriental symbols for an illustration of some of those on Caledonian monuments. For corresponding symbols of such unaccountable resemblance are to be observed on these, that if they have not (by some been derived from those of Egypt, it appears altogether inexplicable how so regular and repeated a similarity could have ever taken place.

THE attitudes and attributes of human figures and domestic animals, as engaged in the common concerns of a pastoral life, or in the exercises and expression of warlike achievement, may be common to all countries. On the resemblance of these, therefore, no great dependance could be given.

But in the peculiarities of design, and resemblance to the corresponding archetypes, of the figures selected for the annexed plate, there is a more surprising conformity, and the combinations are out of the usual course of nature, and can have little reference as real pictures to the common concerns of life. Their import must then be symbolical, and their meaning taken from more remote allusions to the ideas of which they are memorials, and to the instruction and knowledge which they convey.

WE shall not here extend our enquiry far into the original derivation of symbols; as they proceeded from a deep and enlightened philosophy, which penetrated far into the relations which subsist between the material and intellectual world, and made choice of the most expressive characters whereby their sublime conceptions could be conveyed. But there is some rational pleasure in observing the general outlines of the manner of applying these hieroglyphicks and symbols, which through the early æras of human improvement were the only record of Divine Truth, and left memorials of the sublime communications which they involved, that commanded the veneration of the learned in every age.

THE eagle as among the most celebrated of symbols, and by the quotations produced from the best authorities on the subject, the applications of it proceeded from these speculations. The eagle often ascending above the clouds, and pervading the higher regions of the air; and looking down from those heights invisible, through the extensive vision of his piercing eye, distinctly discerns whatever is interesting in this lower world. Hence became an expressive symbol of that eye of Divine observation, which as from on high beholds all things.

It seems to have been the influence which the sun had over the whole body of waters—attracting and directing their course. This primary deduction of philosophy, applied also in a metaphorical manner to that ineffable energy of which the sun was the symbol, actuating and governing the material universe.

THIS symbol would hold a distinguished place among those abraxas or amulets, which, in their original application, were given on initiation, and contained an inscription which none could read but those to whom the divine communications were given at the same time. These were held as memorials of high esteem, and preserved with care as something sacred; and from that venerable origin, came in the progress of traditionary learning, to be so valued in Caledonia, as to obtain a distinguished place among the hieroglyphical monuments. That of the plate is taken from the obelisk in *Ross-shire*, of which a representation is given in the first Number; and the correspondence of form and design, is so remarkable that it could hardly be overlooked.

THE CATHOLIC lamb is copied from the roof of the Chapter-house at Pluscardine Abbey. The CALEDONIAN lion, &c. is taken from a desk in the Kirk of Cullen. And also the rank of figures at the bottom of the plate.

ON the monument erected over Sir Thomas Bronley, anno M.D.LXXXVII, in Westminster-Abbey, chosen one of the Privy Council by Queen Elizabeth, celebrated for fidelity, equity, magnanimity, singular virtue, and generosity of soul.

IT is observable, that on the frieze of the cornice, and on the bases of the columns, there are inscriptions, which every observer must see exactly correspond with the symbols here chosen to supply their place. The three characteristicks offered to view in that conspicuous manner, are

Justitia & Equitate.

Labore & Industria.

Studio & Diligentia.

Consilio, Pietate, ac Jurisprudentia Insignis.

IN this manner our forefathers complimented the dead, and bore record to the virtues by which they were distinguished: but I only offer this elucidation of their import, from the inscriptions on a monument of a corresponding age, as one of the justest measures of interpretation to which we can have recourse; although what is implied, or couched under these symbolic figures, is so generally understood, they hardly were in need of such illustration.

These remarks on the nature of symbols are only the opening of the vestibule of a GOTHIC PALACE, in which we shall hereafter wander with romantic entertainment and instructive pleasure.

WHILE the author was yet meditating the illustration of these symbols, it pleased Almighty God to terminate his researches here below. The above was copied from some of his original scrolls which he had noted down when contemplating the present plate. It is impossible for us to make the description more complete; but what is given will in some degree unfold the intention of the author, and enable those who delight in such studies, to follow out the ideas to a greater length.

Marshall

and new plan.)

FORT AUGUSTUS.

THIS fortress is so remotely situated, that it has not been visited by many travellers. The descriptions which have been given of it are very general and very short. It is not indeed a subject which admits of long detail; and little more can be done, at present, than to recite the few observations made by previous writers.

Fort Augustus is seated on a plain at the head of the great lake called *Loch Ness*, bordered on each side by the rivers *Taarf* and *Oich*. The fort consists of four bastions: the Governor's house is within, and barracks for four hundred men.

From an eminence near the fort, is a full view of the whole lake; for it is perfectly straight, running from east to west, with a point to the south. It is surrounded by a crowd of lofty mountains, great part of which is clothed with wood. This beautiful lake has a great resemblance to some parts of the lake of *Lucerne*, especially towards the east end.

Loch Ness is screened on the north-west by the great mountains of *Urquhart* and *Mealfourvony*, and bordered with coppices of birch and oak. The adjacent hills are adorned with many extensive forests of pine, which afford shelter to the cattle, and are the retreat of stags and deer. There is much cultivation and improvement on the banks of *Loch Ness*, and the pasture grounds in the neighbouring valleys are excellent.

We enjoyed along its banks a most romantic and beautiful scenery, generally in woods of birch or hazel, mixed with a few holly, whitethorn, aspen, ash and oak; but open enough, in all parts, to admit a sight of the water. Sometimes the road was straight for a considerable distance, and resembled a fine and regular avenue; in other places, it wound about the sides of the hills which overhung the lake; the road was frequently cut through the rock, which, on one side, formed a solid wall, on the other, a steep precipice.

In many parts we were immersed in woods; in others, they opened, and gave a view of the sides and tops of the vast mountains soaring above; some of these were naked, but in general covered with wood, except on the mere precipices, or where the grey rocks denied vegetation, or where the heath, glowing with purple blossoms, covered the surface.

The form of these hills was very various and irregular, either broken into frequent precipices, or towering into rounded summits clothed with trees; yet not so close but to admit a sight of the sky between them. Thus for many miles there was no possibility of cultivation; yet this track was occupied by diminutive cattle, by sheep, or by goats: the last were pied, and lived most luxuriously on the tender branches of the trees.

The wild animals that possessed this picturesque scene were stags and roes, black game and grouse; and on the summits, white hares and ptarmigans. Foxes are so
numerous

numerous and voracious, that the farmers are sometimes forced to house their sheep, as is done in France for fear of the wolves.

THE north side of *Loch Ness* is far less beautiful than the south. In general the hills are less high, but very steep; in a few places covered with brushwood, but in general very naked, from the sliding of the strata down their sloping sides. About the middle is *Castle Urquhart*, a fortress founded on a rock projecting into the lake, and was said to have been the seat of the once powerful *Cummins*. Near it is the broadest part of the loch, occasioned by a bay near the castle.

Loch Ness is twenty-two miles in length; in general from one to two in breadth; its greatest depth an hundred and forty fathoms.

FROM the lake issues the river *Ness*, which discharges itself into the *Murray Firth* at *Inverness*, a royal borough, the capital of the shire, and of the Highlands of Scotland.

Loch Ness, by reason of its great depth, never freezes; and, during cold weather, a violent steam rises from it as from a furnace. Ice brought from other parts, and put into it, instantly thaws: but no water freezes sooner than that of the lake when brought into a house. Its water is esteemed very salubrious; so that people come or send thirty miles for it: old Lord Lovat, in particular, made constant use of it. But it is certain, whether it be owing to the water, or to the air of that neighbourhood, that, for seven years, the garrison of *Fort Augustus* had not lost a single man.

THE greatest rise of water in *Loch Ness* is fourteen feet. The lakes whence it receives its supplies are *Loch Oich*, *Loch Garne*, and *Loch Quich*.

Fort Augustus is not capable of much defence, being commanded by several heights at no great distance.

NEAR the fort is a small village, with a tolerable inn; and below it a little pier, which affords shelter for small vessels and boats, which come from *Inverness* with stores to supply the garrison.

THE mountains on each side of *Fort Augustus* are very rugged and barren. All the way from the fort to the lake is a fine extensive plain, which answers well as a place of exercise for the military. At the lower part of the lake there are many extensive plantations of fir, continued all the way to *Inverness*, which is about five miles from the lower end of *Loch Ness*.

Monza Italy

CATHEDRAL of St. ANDREW's

AFTER passing the ferry from *Leith* to *Kinghorn* there is a pleasant ride of 30 miles on a turnpike road to *St. Andrew's*. This city lies on a small rising ground along the sea coast. It is not situated on the great post road to the north, and, consequently, does not so readily fall under the observation of travellers. In approaching the city, at the distance of a mile, it makes an appearance so grand and beautiful, that the artist is tempted to light from his horse, and draw. Numerous towers and spires give it an air of vast magnificence, and the situation renders the prospect altogether uncommonly agreeable.

UPON entering the gate, the whole city appears one extensive ruin, and affords numberless subjects to exercise the talents of the artist. The cathedral certainly attracts first attention. The west view takes in the whole. It is delineated in *Mr. Pennant's Tour*. The south side affords two good views; the one from the north is given in this plate. The east end, together with the chapel of *St. Regulus*, likewise yields materials for two excellent drawings.

CARDINAL BEATON's castle is also a good subject. The front looking to the land gives a proper specimen of the building; and the side shews the extent of the ruin scattered all over the promontory. The opposite hills on the other side of the Firth come into these views, and tend greatly to augment their picturesque and beautiful appearance.

BESIDES the above, *St. Andrew's* contains an abundance of other very deserving subjects.

THE old College is entirely of Gothic structure: the new is built in a plain modern style.

THIS Cathedral bears a striking resemblance to that of *Elgin*. The towers in the west end have been as high, but not so huge and massy: The east end is not so elegantly finished, and the whole is less decorated and gorgeous. At *Elgin*, however, there is no building to vie with the lofty chapel of *St. Regulus*. It, though within the walls, stands detached from the great body of the building, and seems, some how, out of place, as it tends in no degree to complete the plan of the cathedral. The whole of the east end stands tolerably complete, but none of the side walls remain adjoining to it. Only the part of the south side is undemolished which unites with the west end. The one tower of the west end continues very entire in conjunction with the grand door of the church; but the other is totally erased.

IN the middle of the town stands a neat little building of Gothic structure, called *Black Friars Chapel*. A set of huts are built leaning to its walls. It is of an octagon form, with an arched or vaulted roof, and has a fine arched window in every side. It seems to be an exact pattern of the Chapter-house at *Elgin Cathedral*. A proposal was made, some years ago, to fit it up, and convert it into an English chapel. But there is little chance that the scheme will take place, as it would cost as much to repair the old chapel as to build a new one.

CARDINAL

CARDINAL BEATON'S Castle is situated, north of the cathedral, on a ridge of rocks projecting into the sea, and seems to have been a fortress capable of good defence. The front, which communicates by a kind of bridge with the land, is the only part in the smallest degree entire: the rest is a heap of ruins; some large masses scattered along the cliffs, others lying in the sea. The fragments of this gorgeous edifice bear ample testimony that it has been one of the most superb in its own time.

IN this Castle the celebrated Cardinal was murdered on the twenty-ninth day of May, 1546.

THE Cathedral is said to have been founded before the end of the eleventh century, but was not completed until the thirteenth. Its length from east to west has been about three hundred and seventy feet. The castle and the chapel of St. Regulus are mentioned as buildings of a still older date. The tower belonging to the chapel is a square, on each side about twenty feet broad, and upwards of an hundred high. The magistrates of St. Andrew's have lately given it a thorough repair, and carried a stone stair-case up to its top.

IN the town church, a magnificent white marble monument is raised to the memory of Archbishop Sharp, who was cruelly put to death a few miles from St. Andrew's in the year 1675. His effigy, as large as life, is placed between two Corinthian columns. He is dressed in his sacred robes, kneeling on a cushion, with a book open before him. Below, the manner of his death is represented in exquisite workmanship. Some of the assassins in the very act of committing the murder, are dragging the prelate out of his coach; others, on horseback, are feeding their eyes, looking towards the horrid spectacle. The Bishop's daughter, who had been with him in the coach, is represented on the ground fainting in the arms of two supporters.

ST. ANDREW'S, in the days of episcopacy, was the see of an archbishop, who held the primacy of all Scotland.

THREE spacious grass-grown streets, almost parallel, concentre in the area before the cathedral, and are crossed at right angles by several lanes.

THE situation of the university is peculiarly favourable to science, as there is nothing near to draw off the attention of the students, and as there are many scenes nobly calculated to inspire wisdom and awaken genius.

A

D

B

C

e

F

E

Magill July

WEYMOUTH CRAB, SPUNGE, &c.

by Robert at the Art Direct School 1795 by Robert at the Art Direct School 1795 by Robert at the Art Direct School 1795

Crab and Spunge

Weymouth Crab, Spunge, &c.

EVERY day brings under observation new specimens of little animals, and their workmanship, drenched up from our seas. The chambers of the deep teem with myriads of living creatures whose wonderful economy is still unexplored. To persons who have taste and leisure, it is certainly a pleasant task to examine and arrange them: and the pleasure is greatly augmented by putting them in a way to contribute to the entertainment of Society.

The little crab, marked F, belongs to the species called, in the BRITISH ZOOLOGY, *Weymouth*. Mr. Pennant describes it in the following words.

Dorsetensis. Cr. with a cordated body, rugged and bent, with a few spines; very thick, and long claws; and very slender legs, the first pair much longer than the rest.

THE specimen which he had seen was in the *Portland Cabinet*; but no attention had been paid to it in the drying, and it seemed to have died in convulsive agonies, as the legs and claws were all twisted, and turned towards its body.

WHEN these animals are procured alive, great care is requisite to preserve their shapes true and elegant. While yet moist and flexible, they should be stretched at full length upon a piece of board, until they become hard and dry. Then no chance remains that their forms will alter; and the specimens have the advantage of being shewn in their native elegance.

THE crab from which the sketch in the plate was taken, had been kept for a considerable time alive in salt water. The greatest curiosity about it seemed to be the singular quantity of little corallines with which it was overgrown. During the time in which the animal was kept alive, it employed itself almost wholly in picking off these branches. They seemed to be a heavy incumbrance to it, and its anxiety to get rid of them was very strikingly displayed. The corallines which take up their habitations on the bodies and legs of these animals, are of every different species; and great variety are found on the same crab, some of exceeding fine workmanship, and very beautiful forms. The animal was so wholly overgrown with them, that the shape of its body and limbs could scarcely be discerned.

THERE is a very delicate entertainment in pursuing the little insect through its various actions and employments in life. The mind cannot dwell long on such tender subjects without being elevated and refined. He who contemplates them, admires the deep mysteries of Almighty Wisdom; and every new beam of that divine knowledge awakens pleasure in the soul.

THE small drawing at c, is a representation of the manner in which *Spunge* begins to shoot. At E the same is considerably magnified: the spines are adhering to a shell from which they seem to shoot forth, and are interwoven with curvatures of very beautiful red and white corals.

A, B, C,

A, B, C, D, are different views of a very curious *muskle*, dragged up about three leagues from this coast. It is a bivalve, in form very similar to our common muskle; but is remarkable for the rows of prickles down its sides. These spines are placed in very regular order, and three rows are commonly on each shell. This species seems not as yet to have fallen under the observation of our Naturalists. *Mr. Pennant* certainly had not been acquainted with it, as he takes no notice of such an one in the *BRITISH ZOOLOGY*.

THE ocean continues to us an inexhaustible source whence to improve our knowledge, and to enrich our cabinets. It affords wonderful displays of His incomprehensible skill, who, with the same all-pervading eye, beholds the movements of the insect and the rolling of the spheres.

THE contemplation of these wonderful orders of life, while they kindle in the soul the most delicate sensations, cannot fail to raise our thoughts in admiration of that Universal Operator who formed all things. His diffusive energy animates the whole creation. The certainty of His omnipotence, and the sense of his continual presence, are, to a pious mind, the most cheering reflections in life. One who feels these impressions, sees HIM in every thing, and cannot admire the smallest of his works without thinking of Him.

THE blessed idea of the Supreme Perfection, which is their high origin, devolves on them those divine embellishments which enchant our souls, and render our admiration a mysterious homage paid to the splendour and benignity of a Providence whose energies are infinite and eternal.

MONUMENTS *in the* MAUSOLEUM *of the* EARL *of* FIFE, &c. &c.

THESE Monuments afford a good idea of the progress which the arts had made in Scotland at a very early period.

THEY were removed along with the remains from the burying place in the isle of *Cullen*, and deposited in the family mausoleum in DUFF HOUSE PARK, anno 1790. *John Duff, of Maldavat*, who died *July, 1404*, &c. was an ancestor of the family, lineally descended from David Duff, of Maldavat, grandson of Duncan the Thirteenth, Earl of Fife.

THIS MAUSOLEUM is beautifully situated on an eminence in the Park overlooking the river *Dovern*, about a mile from Duff House. It is surrounded with a variety of trees, which forms a distinguished ornament to the Park. It is built in the Gothic style.

MANY respectable monuments of the family are arranged in the Mausoleum, which is fitted up in the form of a chapel. The remains are deposited in the vaults below.

IN the west end stands the monument of Maldavat in the year 1404.—Above it is an open book of stone, containing dates of the burials of the family from the thirteenth generation, back, through a period of more than four hundred years.

UPON the south-side, an elegant marble monument, to Alexander Duff, of Bracco, erected 1705.

ALSO, a white marble monument to Lady Janet Ogilvie, Daughter to the Chancellor the Earl of Seafield, and the late Earl of Fife's first wife, who died in the year 1721.

IN the east end, a very beautiful and sumptuous monument is erected, in memory of William Earl of Fife, Viscount Macduff, &c. and Jean Countess of Fife.

THE divisions of the windows are formed of stone filled with painted glass, exhibiting the arms of the family's numerous relations, and other devices suited to the nature of the place. Above the door are placed two very elegant statues of *Faith* and *Hope*.

THIS MAUSOLEUM is erected in the place where stood a chapel dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, by King Robert Bruce anno 1324. The adjacent grounds were also devoted by his royal charter, for the building and support of a Monastery of the holy brethren of MOUNT CARNEL.

7/24/11

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