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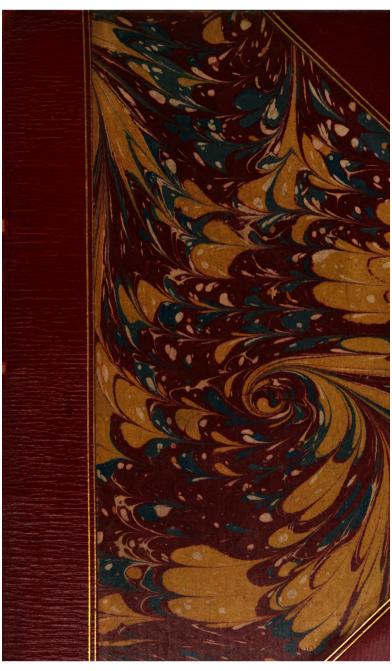
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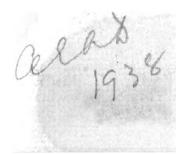
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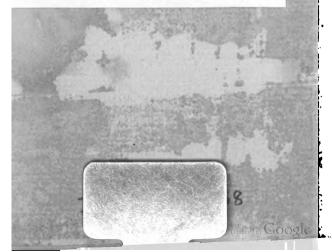




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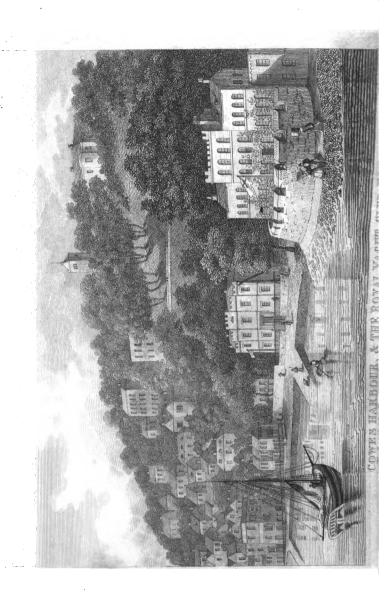
A

TOPOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL GUIDE

01

THE ISLE OF WIGHT.





Topographical and historical guide

ISLE OF WIGHT,

CONTAINING

**BEVERY INFORMATION INTERESTING TO THE ANTIQUARIAN,

BOTANIST, GEOLOGIST, HISTORIAN, AND TOURIST;

WITH

A BIOGRAPHICAL NOTICE OF EMINENT NATIVES;

REMARKS ON THE CLIMATE;

THE SANDROCK CHALYBEATE SPRING;

THE RATES OF PASSAGE. &c.

TO WHICH IS ADDED.

A AList of

THE MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL YACHT CLUB.

By W. C. F. G. SHERIDAN.

EMBELLISHED WITH A MAP, PLANS, VIEWS, &c.

SECOND EDITION.

London:

PRINTED FOR M. A. LEIGH, 421, STRAND;

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MDCCCXXXIII.



"That lovely spot, which he who has once seen never forgets, through whatever part of the world his future path may

" lead him."

SIR WALTER SCOTT.

LONDON:

PRINTED BY T. BRETTELL, RUPERT STREET, HAYMARKET.

TO

SIR RICHARD-GODIN SIMEON, BART.

OF ST. JOHN'S,

Member of Parliament for the County of the Isle of Wight,

This UBork is Dedicated,

AS A TOKEN OF RESPECT,

BY HIS OBLIGED AND GRATEFUL SERVANT,

W. C. F. G. SHERIDAN.

PREFACE.

THE various changes, numerous improvements, and rising importance of the Isle of Wight, requiring an accurate description of its merits, it has been deemed desirable that the accommodation and attractions this beautiful island so pre-eminently possesses, should be carefully and correctly pointed out. References have been made to the best authorities, and the most impartial sources of information have been consulted. It has not been attempted to promote the interest of one particular portion of the island, to the prejudice of another; thus enabling visitors to select those places for a residence most congenial to their wishes, whether in the pursuit of health, pleasure, or that retirement best calculated for the studious mind.

The object of this work, also, has been, to conthe most useful information, in the smallest confor the benefit of those numerous individuals annually visit the island, and at the same tin render it generally interesting to the residents.

To meet the alterations, and changes, which revolving year brings in its train, a carefully re edition will be annually published; and any suggestimprovement, or information, which may tend to attainment of the objects above specified, will receivery attention.

Family Hotel and Boarding House, Ryde, Isle of Wight, May 1833. n (

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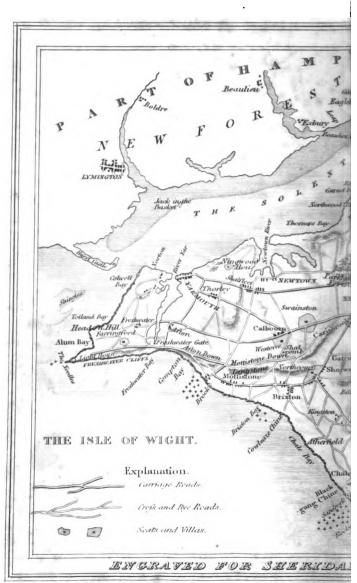
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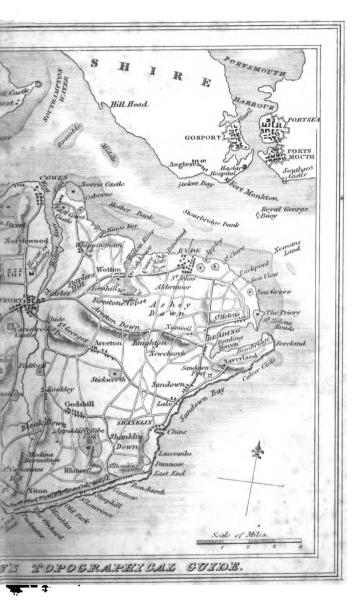
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HISTORY

OF THE

ISLE OF WIGHT.

CHAP. I.

Or the early History of the Isle of Wight, but little is now known; it is supposed, however, to have been peopled by a tribe called Belgæ, from the opposite continent of Gaul, a part of whom also settled in the adjoining division of Britain. It was called by the Britons, Guith*; by the Romans, Vectis; and by their successors, the English Saxons, Wuit-land. According to some writers, it was from this island, under the name of Tebis, that the Britons used to transport their tin to Gaul, after being conveyed hither in waggons from Cornwall, along a narrow isthmus, which was left dry at low water; but this being broken by the force of the sea,

Signifying a separation, which gives probability to the supposition, that it was formerly connected with the main land, but by the violence of the sea gradually disjoined from it.

caused the removal of the tin staple to the opposite port of Southampton (at that time much frequented by foreign traders): there it was continued until the 31st Henry VI., who in that year seized all the tin then in Southampton, and sold it, appropriating the proceeds to his own use. The tin thus seized principally belonged to foreign merchants, and was of the estimated value of £.8000; as an equivalent for this oppressive act, they were authorised, by Henry, to receive that amount from the port duties.

Suetonius, the first Roman author who mentions the Isle of Wight under the name of Ictis*, records that it was rendered subject to the Romans, by Vespasian, in the time of Claudius, in the year 43. For his services, he was, on his return to Rome, decreed a triumph, and other great honours, and afterwards obtained the consular dignity.

The Roman armies having entirely subjugated many of the Southern provinces of Britain; the inhabitants, being more desirous of peace than disposed to hazard their lives and possessions in a doubtful struggle for liberty, submitted themselves quietly to their new masters, and were thus spared the ravages which desolated the other provinces, by a protracted but ineffectual resistance to the Romans. The provinces of Cantii, Atrebates, Belgæ, Insula Vectis, Regni, and

Other writers have affirmed, that the Ictis of the Romans was what are now called the Scilly Isles, and adduce many arguments, which at least favour their supposition.

Frinobantes (including a district now known as the counties of Kent, Berkshire, Hampshire, Wiltshire, the Isle of Wight, Surrey, Sussex, Middlesex, and Essex), were visited by the Emperor Claudius, who came to receive their submission in person. From this period the Isle of Wight, and the provinces just mentioned, was not subjected to the vicissitudes that occurred in other parts of Britain, and for a period of upwards of four hundred years no mention is made of it by historians. The gradual decay of the Roman power, and eventually their desertion of those whom they had conquered, left the unfortunate Britons—weak with their vain endeavours of resistance-enervated and indolent, from luxury and inactivity, too dispirited and submissive to maintain the independence that was now thrust upon them: they consequently became the prey, first, of the Picts and Scots, and next, of the warlike hordes whom they had themselves called over from Germany for their protection. These, seeing the fertility of the land, and the too passive nature of the inhabitants, determined on subjugating those they had been summoned to assist.

In the year 495, a tribe of Saxons, under Cerdic and his son Kenric, landed, not without opposition on the part of the Britons, and, from the situation of their settlement, obtained the name of the West Saxons. This district comprised, what is now known as the counties of Cornwall, Devonshire, Dorsetshire, Somersetshire, Wiltshire, Southampton, and Berkshire. In the year 530, the Isle of Wight was subjugated by them, and granted to two of their kinsmen and followers, named

Shuffa and Whitgar. These chieftains slew nearly the whole of the inhabitants, at a place they called Whitgaraburgh (now Carisbrooke), substituting in their place a tribe of Jutes, who had accompanied them from Saxony. With them it remained until Walpher, king of Mercia, conquered it, in 601. Walpher, having defeated Adelwalch, a king of Sussex, persuaded that prince, his captive, to embrace Christianity, and stood sponsor for him on his baptism, giving him this island, and a district on the main land, called Mean-vire*, in token of his adoption. The island, being thus rendered tributary to the kingdom of Sussex, was placed under the dominion of a petty king, named Arvandus; and being soon after claimed by Ceodwalla, King of Wessex, a descendant of Cerdic, as his rightful inheritance, it was by him seized upon, and Arvandus put to death. Adelwalch also being defeated and slain by Ceodwalla in battle, his kingdom was annexed to that of Wessex. Ceodwalla, having determined on the extirpation of the inhabitants of the island as idolaters, was prevailed on to spare such as would become converts to Christianity: great numbers of the inhabitants submitted to the proposed terms, and were baptized. The two sons of Arvandus having escaped from the island, remained for some time concealed, but

^{*} This district still retains a portion of its ancient name, and is divided into three hundreds—distinguished as Meansborough, East Mean, and West Mean; and is, on the authority of Bede, said to have been the site of Old Winchester. Camden, however, supposed it only to have been a summer camp of the Romans.

being at length discovered, and betrayed into the hands of Ceodwalla, he ordered their execution, and could only be prevailed on by Cimbreth, Abbot of Retford, to postpone his cruel resolve until they had been baptized. Having fully succeeded in his enterprise, he, in conformity to a vow made when he undertook the expedition, assigned over to the service of God three hundred hides of land, being one-fourth part of the whole island, and re-peopled it from his own province. Being shortly afterwards satiated with injustice and bloodshed, he made a pilgrimage to Rome, where he died, in 689.

The first descent of the Danes on the Isle of Wight was in the reign of Brithric, King of Wessex, in 787. How long they retained possession of it is unknown, but from hence they used to issue on their predatory excursions to the neighbouring coasts; ravaging, massacring, and levying contributions wherever they appeared, and returning hither as to a safe refuge, laden with the spoils they had acquired.

In the reign of Alfred it was visited and plundered by them; and again in that of Edgar in 897. On this occasion, however, the Danes did not escape with the usual impunity; for, being pursued to the coast of Devon, their ships were either taken or destroyed, and the crews were hanged at Winchester. In the reign of Ethelred, nowise deterred by the example which had been made, they once more visited the island, and retained possession of it for many years. In the time of Edward the Confessor, the Isle of Wight was plundered by Earl Goodwin; he was here joined by Earl Harold, his son;

and unexpectedly entering the harbours on the Southern coast, and seizing all ships therein, summoned his followers and adherents to assist in forcing the King to do him justice. Upon the accession (A. D. 1066) of Harold II., son of Earl Goodwin, his brother Tosti, who had been expelled from his government in Northumberland, on account of his cruelty and oppression, invaded the island, and, after compelling the inhabitants to pay him tribute, departed.

Upon the overthrow of Harold by William, Duke of Normandy, the conqueror dispatched his kinsman and follower, William Fitz-Osborne, constable of the Duchy (and who had recently been created by his master Earl of Hereford, Custodian of the castles of York and Winchester, and Chief Justiciary of the North of England), to subjugate this island. This commission he easily effected, and was, for the service, presented with the lordship of the Isle of Wight. His first act was to partition the lands among his followers. Being killed in battle in Flanders, Fitz-Osborne left three sons; the eldest obtained possession of the Norman property; the second was a monk; and the third son, Roger, surnamed De Bretteville, succeeded to the English titles and estates; but instigating a conspiracy, and taking up arms against the King, he was attainted of high treason, and condemned to perpetual imprisonment, in which forlorn state he died without issue. His possessions, being escheated, came into the hands of the King.

Richard de Redvers, or de Ripariis, Earl of Devon, (the strenuous adherent of Henry I., during his contention for the crown with his elder brother. Robert, Duke of Normandy) had the lordship of the Isle of Wight bestowed upon him, as a reward for his faithful services. His son and successor, Earl Baldwyn, declaring for the Empress Maud, fortified the island in her favour; but being overcome by King Stephen, his estates and honours were forfeited, and he was banished the kingdom. died A. D. 1155, and was buried at Quarr Abbey, which he had founded and had largely endowed in 1132. Baldwyn left three sons,-Richard, to whom the estates were restored; William, surnamed de Vernon, from the place of his birth, and of whom we shall have occasion to speak hereafter; and Henry. The lordship was successively held by the two sons of Earl Richard, but they dying young, and without issue, it reverted to their paternal uncle, William de Vernon. Soon after the return of Richard I. from captivity, this nobleman was one of the supporters of the canopy borne over the King, when he was a second time crowned, with great pomp, at Winchester. On the accession of King John, he was compelled to pay the sum of five hundred marks*. .for the exercise of the right, which, as Lord of the Isle of Wight, was vested in him-of governing his tenants by military service: he was also required to give up his grandson as a hostage for his fidelity, being, it was supposed, favourable to the designs on the throne by Lewis, Dauphin of France, who was at that time in England. The arbitrary conduct and inordinate rapacity of John,

^{• £.333 6}s. 8d. of our present money.

in encroaching on the rights and privileges of the barons, were the causes of their daring and successful resistance to this unpopular king; the happy consequence of which was, that John was induced, by the appearances of danger from so many quarters, to sign the great Charter of British Liberty-so much our boast and pride at the present day. During the time that John was soliciting the Pope for a dispensation from the engagements which had been extorted from him, he resided obscurely in the Isle of Wight, associating only with the lowest classes of society, and brooding revenge should an opportunity offer. William de Vernon contributed largely to the revenues and possessions of Quarr Abbey, and was buried there. He left three grand-children, Baldwyn, Mary, and Joan. His titles and estates devolved to Baldwyn, the third earl of that name, who, upon the marriage of Joan, his sister, to Hubert de Burgh, Earl of Kent, presented her with this lordship by way of dower; but she dying without issue, it came back to her nephew, who married a relation of Queen Eleanor, and left one son John, who died young. lordship reverted, in default of heirs male, to Isabella. daughter of Baldwyn, the third earl, who was married to William de Fortibus, Earl of Albemarle and Holdernesse. She, on her death-bed, made over to Edward I. all her interest in this island, together with the manors of Christchurch, in Hampshire, and Fawkeshaul (probably Vauxhall in Surrey, adjoining Stockwell, the place of her death), for the sum of six thousand marks. The validity of this alienation was disputed in Par-

hament, by Hugh de Courtenay, the nearest heir (being descended from Mary, one of the grand-daughters of William de Vernon), on the ground of undue influence having been used to obtain it. The cause was, however, ultimately determined in the King's favour, after having been in agitation for the period of twenty-two years. It remained in the hands of the Crown, and was governed by Wardens: Sir William Russell, and Sir Adam de Gurdon, being the first appointed to that office by the King, until Edward II. bestowed it on Piers Gaveston: but the murmurs and discontent which the unbounded prodigality of Edward, toward his favourite, created in the minds of the nobility, induced him to resume the grant of this lordship; and he gave it to his eldest son, afterwards Edward III., in whose reign the French landed at St. Helen's, and plundered the inhabitants. In the first year of Richard II., another descent was made on the island by the same enemy, who, after destroying the towns of Newtown and Yarmouth, and the village of Rye, or La Riche (now Ryde), where they landed, and having levied the sum of one thousand marks, were met by the islanders, and driven back to their ships, with considerable loss. In the ninth of the same reign, the Isle of Wight was granted for life to William Montacute, Earl of Salisbury; at his death it was given to Edward, Earl of Rutland, afterwards Duke of York. This nobleman led the van of Henry the Fifth at the battle of Agincourt, where, being excessively corpulent, he was thrown down, and pressed to death by the contending soldiers. The duchess, his widow, retained possession of the lordship till her death. In this reign*, a large party of Frenchmen landed, with the determination, as they vaunted, of keeping their Christmas here; the islanders however, vigorously assailed, and compelled them to retreat to their ships, with great loss.

" A short time after this, they made another hostile " visit, demanding a subsidy, in the name of Richard II. " and of Isabella, his queen; they were answered that " 'Richard was dead, and his queen sent back to " 'France, without any subsidy being stipulated; but, " 'if the French had any desire to try their prowess, " 'they should not only be permitted to land without " ' molestation, but also be allowed six hours to refresh " 'themselves, after which the islanders would meet " 'them in the field.' This spirited invitation the " invaders thought prudent to decline†." After the decease of Philippa, Duchess of York, it reverted, in the 17th Henry VI., to Humphrey, usually styled the good Duke of Gloucester, who held it until his death, when it again fell into the King's hands. During the time that the lordship was possessed by Duke Humphrey, Henry de Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, was, by Henry VI., made premier Earl of all England, and by the King's own hands crowned King of the Isle of Wight. He was next created Duke of Warwick, his patent expressing that he should take his place in Parliament after the Duke of Norfolk, and before the Duke of Buckingham: he died soon after, without issue, and the

[•] Henry V. + Sir R. Worsley, p. 33.

royalty was discontinued; but the lordship granted to Richard, Duke of York, and father of Edward IV.; this nobleman lost his life at the battle of Wakefield, upon the breaking out of the civil war, in which unhappy contest and struggle for pre-eminence so much of the best and noblest blood of England was wasted.

In the 31st Henry VI., Edmund, Duke of Somerset, having married the sister of the Duke of Warwick, was invested with the lordship: he sided with the King, and was slain at the battle of St. Alban's. His son Henry succeeded him, who, quitting the King's party, joined the Yorkists; but again leaving them for the King, he was taken prisoner at the battle of Hexham, and beheaded. The lordship was then granted, by Edward IV., to Anthony Widville, upon whose death it was continued to his son Richard, soon after created Earl Rivers, whose daughter the King married. This nobleman fell a victim to the machinations of Richard Plantagenet, Duke of Gloucester, whose ambition grasping at the crown, thus early caused the death of this unfortunate nobleman, who was beheaded at Pontefract, without even the apology of a trial, in the year 1483. On the death of Richard III., and accession of Henry VII., Sir Edward Widville, brother of the late Earl Rivers, was made Captain of the Isle of Wight. He shortly afterwards, with a considerable number of the principal inhabitants, and others, in all five hundred men, embarked to the assistance of the Duke of Brittany against the French, and was joined by fifteen hundred of the duke's men, clad in the same uniform (a white coat with a red cross.) They were met by the enemy near St. Aubin's, and the whole party cut to pieces, one boy only escaping to relate the unfortunate fate of his companions. In the tenth year of the same reign, Sir Reginald Bray obtained the fee farm of the island, together with the manors of Brixton, Thorley, Swainston, and Wellow, at the annual rent-charge of three hundred and seven marks. The captaincy was then granted to Sir Nicholas Wadham, who died 3 Henry VIII., to whose memory a monument is still remaining (although much mutilated) in the church at Carisbrooke, where he was buried. His grandson founded a college at Oxford, bearing his name. Sir Nicholas Wadham was of a very ancient family in Devonshire.

The next captain was Sir James Worsley, who, in 1511, had the appointment for life, and was succeeded by his son, Richard Worsley, Esq. of Appuldercombe, where he was honoured by a visit from Henry VIII. In this reign the French fleet, of two hundred sail, commanded by D'Annehaut, appeared off St. Helen's; but being unacquainted with the navigation of the channel, separating the island from the main land, ventured no farther, leaving in perfect security the English fleet, which was at that time too inconsiderable to attack them. A party, however, landed on the island, burnt several villages, and plundered the inhabitants, who, at length roused to a spirit of resistance, beat them off with considerable loss, including the leader of the party. Upon the death of Henry, and the accession of Queen Mary, he resigned the captaincy, having in the

last reign rendered himself an instrument against the Papists: his place was filled by Captain Girling; but when Elizabeth ascended the throne he was removed, and Mr. Worsley again reinstated. He died in 1565.

Captain Edward Horsey, a distinguished naval commander, and of an ancient family in Devonshire, was the next captain of the island. He received the honour of knighthood, and was appointed ambassador to the King of the Netherlands, son of Charles V. of Austria. It is reported of Sir Edward, that he gave a lamb for every live hare that was brought to him from the main land; such was his desire to introduce game into the island. He died in 1582, and was buried in the church at Newport, where a handsome monument still remains.

Sir George Carey was now appointed Captain of the Isle of Wight. He was related to Queen Elizabeth, and was son of Lord Hunsdon, to which title he succeeded. During the time of Sir George's government, the Spanish Armada was prepared, notoriously for the purpose of invading England. The necessary caution which the captain thought fit to use at such a time, and the coercive measures which he exercised under such circumstances, rendered him very obnoxious to the gentlemen of the island, who drew up and forwarded a remonstrance to the Lords of the Council, in which they stated the nature of the grievances to which they were subjected. This drew forth a reply from the captain. who stated his reasons for the measures complained of, and the memorial was dismissed. The forts on the island under Sir George's direction were repaired, and

put into a complete state of defence, by the appointment of men and arms. He died A.D. 1603.

Henry, Earl of Southampton, was, in the same year, the 1st James I., appointed captain. He was the friend of the Earl of Essex, and implicated with him in taking up arms against Elizabeth; for this he had been committed to the Tower, where he remained until the Queen's death, when he was released, and restored to his honours and estates. He held the captaincy until 1625; and from his good government and hospitality the island became flourishing.

John, Lord Conway, succeeded him; but being appointed Secretary of State, he deputed two lieutenants to the care: these were Sir Edward Dennis, and Sir John Oglander. Lord Conway died in 1631; and was succeeded by

Richard, Lord Weston, who was soon after created Earl of Portland; he enjoyed his honours but a very short time, and died in 1634. His son, Jerome, succeeded him in his titles and estates, and likewise as Captain of the Isle of Wight; but rendering himself obnoxious to the puritanical faction, by (as Lord Clarendon says) his "extraordinary vivacity," he was, soon after the commencement of the civil wars, dispossessed of his government, and imprisoned by those with whom an affected rigidity of bearing was esteemed an inseparable mark of holiness.

His countess still remained in possession of Carisbrooke castle, having a garrison of only twenty men, commanded by Colonel Brett, who had been nominated

to this duty by Charles I.; but they were obliged to relinquish possession of it to the Mayor of Newport (Moses Read), who, at the head of a motley group of militia and seamen, summoned it in the name of the Parliament. The extraordinary fortitude of the countess is worthy of record; for, advancing to the platform with a lighted match, she addressed those by whom the castle was invested, declaring, that if the terms she proposed were not acceded to, she would resist to the last extremity, and would herself fire the first cannon at the assailants. This heroism had its full effect; for, after some negociations, terms honourable to the besieged were agreed to, the castle given up, and the Earl of Pembroke appointed Governor for the Parliament. He was favourably received by the inhabitants, by which means many of the dreadful scenes of desolation and bloodshed which took place in other parts of the kingdom were avoided here. Upon the seizure of the King's person at Titchfield House, by Colonel Hammond, he was conveyed to the Isle of Wight (of which the colonel was made governor), and lodged in Carisbrooke castle, where he was detained for a period of three months, notwithstanding many attempts were made by his adherents to liberate him. From hence he was removed to London, and soon after executed*.

From this period the Isle of Wight is not connected

Of the circumstances attending his confinement, and subsequent removal, a more detailed account will be found under the head of Carisbrooke Castle.

with any event either of historical importance or particular remark. The following noblemen and gentlemen were successively Governors or Wardens:—

1644. William Sydenham, Esq.

1660. Lord Culpepper. The conduct of this nobleman was considered so arbitrary, and irksome to the islanders, that it was made the subject of a petition to the King, which was however ineffectual; but, probably, feeling the unpleasantness of a situation where he was universally disliked, he resigned, and was succeeded by

Admiral Sir Richard Holmes. This gentleman formed a marked contrast to his predecessor, and was a very popular governor. He was much esteemed by King Charles II., who visited him at Yarmouth: that Monarch landed in Gurnard Bay, near Cowes, in 1671. Sir Richard died in 1692, and was buried at Yarmouth.

John, Lord Cutts, was next appointed, by William III. The early part of this nobleman's government was very unpopular, but afterwards he became more liked. He was general of the forces in Ireland, where he died.

Charles, Marquess of Winchester, afterwards Duke of Bolton. His other duties prevented his taking up his residence in this island, and the first appointment, by the Crown, of a lieutenant-governor took place.

Colonel Morgan was the first gentleman named to this situation, at a salary of twenty shillings per day.

1710. On the removal of the Marquess of Winchester, Colonel Webb was appointed in his place. He was succeeded, in

1715, by William, Lord Cadogan. Afterwards, on the

death of the great Duke of Marlborough, he was made master-general of the ordnance: he died in 1726. The next governor was

Charles, Duke of Bolton (son of a former governor), who was appointed August 26, 1726, but resigned in 1733; and was succeeded by John, Duke of Montague, who held the office only eleven months, and resigned.

John, Viscount Lymington. He resigned in 1742; and in the following year was created Earl of Portsmouth. Charles, Duke of Bolton, reinstated, and again resigned; and in 1745, the Earl of Portsmouth was re-appointed, and held the place till his death, in 1762. The Earl was succeeded by

Thomas, Lord Holmes, who died in 1764. To him succeeded Hans Stanley, Esq.; but the change of administration caused his removal, in 1766; and

Harry, Duke of Bolton, succeeded him in the same year; but he was removed in 1770, and again the Right Honourable Hans Stanley appointed, with a grant for life. He died in 1780. The Right Honourable Sir Richard Worsley was his successor, in which office he continued until 1782, when the Duke of Bolton was again appointed. He died in the year 1789. The appointment was then conferred on the Right Honourable Thomas Orde, afterwards Lord Bolton.

Lord Malmesbury, the present governor, succeeded to the appointment 11th April, 1807.

CHAP, II.

FORM, SITUATION, EXTENT, CLIMATE, &c.

THE ISLE OF WIGHT is in the form of an irregular lozenge; its length, from East to West, computing from the Needles to the Foreland, is about twenty-three miles, and its extreme breadth, from Cowes in the North, to St. Catherine's Point in the South, is rather more than thirteen miles.

It is separated from the main land by the Solent Sea, the channel of which varies from two to six miles; and which, although its navigation is intricate, affords a safe roadstead and shelter to the numerous vessels that are occasionally wind-bound; or, in time of war, waiting for convoy. Its bold, and in some places, precipitous Southern coast, is washed by the waves of the English channel, which, when agitated by the frequent storms to which this latitude is subject, beat with raging and tremendous fury against the cliffs; and, alas! too frequent is it that the frail vessel is dashed with a merciless violence on the rocks, that deprives the venturous mariner of the reward of toil and danger in various climes, and very often of life.

The circumference is variously estimated, at from seventy to seventy-five miles, and the superficial area of the island has been computed to be 105,000 acres.

The air of the island is exceedingly pure and salubrious; the mildness of which is shown by the luxuriance with which myrtles and other evergreens flourish

in the open air, and the size to which they attain. The general appearance of the country is exceedingly diversified, possessing all the various features necessary in the formation of a beautiful landscape:—a constant succession of hill and dale, richly studded with wood, and blended with extensive marine views, forming an endless variety of unequalled scenery, and fully justifying the appellation the island has obtained, of "THE GARDEN OF ENGLAND." On the Northern side, the banks are either fringed with woods and coppices, or gently slope in green meadows to the water's edge. The Southern side, or, as it is frequently termed, the Back of the island, abounds with scenery of a very different character-bold and precipitous rocks, of a highly picturesque and imposing description, extend throughout the whole line of coast; in these, frequent chasms, or ravines, called Chines, engage the attention; through which the trickling brook steals silently among the dark brush and underwood, or is heard purling and bubbling down the steep descent in inconsiderable and mimic cascades: these, indeed, after heavy and continued rains, swell into a torrent, which, after raging among the disjointed masses of fallen rock, forms itself, at length, into one broad volume, that takes its headlong course over the precipices, to the beach beneath.

While Bath, Cheltenham, and Brighton, offer every attraction to the votaries of fashion, and the lovers of publicity and notoriety, the Isle of Wight unassumingly puts forth its claim to the attention of those who are fond of retirement, and like to contemplate nature in all her most lovely and varied forms; while its immediate

neighbourhood possesses attractions which, for interest and importance, cannot be equalled in any part of the world.

POPULATION, REPRESENTATIVES, &c.

The population of the Isle of Wight is estimated at 35,363 inhabitants—of whom, Newport and its suburbs contains 8000; Cowes, East and West, 4491; Ryde, 3396; and Yarmouth, 586. It returns three members to the imperial Parliament; viz., one for the county of the Isle of Wight*, and two for Newport. The present representatives are Sir Richard Simeon, Bart., of St. John's, for the Island; and John Heywood Hawkins, Esq., and William-Henry Ord, Esq. for the Borough of Newport. According to the revising Barrister's list, corrected for 1832, the number of electors for the county of the Isle of Wight, is 1166, and for the Borough of Newport, 425.

AGRICULTURE, &c.

The superficial area of the island contains about 105,000 acres, of which only a small portion is waste land, the rest being either arable or pasture. Formerly a considerable portion of the island was occupied by woods, but these have long since been cleared; the neighbourhood of the dock-yard at Portsmouth has in a great degree deprived the Isle of Wight of such timber as was fit for naval purposes; yet still there remains a quantity of useful and luxuriant plantations.

A high range of Downs runs through the centre of

• The island sent one Member to Parliament, in the twenty-fourth year of Edward IV.

the island, from East to West, and the short luxuriant herbage with which they are clothed, affords pasturage for the numerous flocks of sheep that graze upon them. Those in most repute are a cross, from the Dorset and Leicestershire; and from the great attention of late years paid to the breed, it has been considerably improved; the wool is held in great repute, from its extreme fineness. From the peculiar richness of the feed in the low land, about Brading and Sandown, great numbers of cattle are annually brought hither to be fattened. The horses bred on the island are large, and serviceable for agricultural purposes, in which they are chiefly employed. The cows most in esteem, are of the Alderney and Devon Breed. Poultry of all kinds is in great abundance, although since the peace, stock of all description has been less in demand than when the shipping used to take it in here, while waiting for convoy.

The prevailing kind of soil is a strong loam; but towards the Northern parts the land is a stiff clay, cold and sterile. The grain chiefly grown is wheat, oats, and barley; besides which, beans and peas, various grasses, turnips, mangel-wurzel, and more particularly potatoes, which have been cultivated with great success, and have been known to produce, on the same quantity of land, as much, and even more nourishing matter than wheat.

The rotation of crops depends, of course, entirely on the several properties of the soil. The meadow lands are very productive, averaging about two tons of hay per sere: the manures in general use are lime, marl, and (where it can be conveniently obtained) the alga, or sea-weed; which, after a sufficient exposure in the farm-yard, is found greatly to enrich the earth, from the quantity of saline matter thus obtained. Great quantities of flour are annually shipped from the island, on which there are forty-two mills; thirty-six worked by water, and six are wind-mills. In different parts of the island are strata of fuller's-earth, pipe-clay, red and vellow ochres. &c. A vein of coal is also found to run through some parts, but not of sufficient size to repay the expense of working. An attempt was made some years ago, but from the above cause given up. A beautiful white sand is dug from pits in the vicinity of Freshwater; large quantities of which are sent to the glass and porcelain manufactories of London, Worcester, Bristol, &c. On several parts of the coast a soft blue substance is seen oozing from the shores, and in this the progressive change of nature, from a watery clay to a solid and hard rock, is easily discovered through its various stages. In its first state, great quantities of small shells, flints, &c. adhere to it; and, by constant exposure to the action of the sea and atmosphere, the mass at length forms one perfect petrifaction.

RIVERS.

The only river of any consequence in the island is the Medina, which, as its name signifies, divides the island into equal parts, and is the boundary of the hundred to which it gives name. It has its rise at the foot of St. Catherine's Down: and after passing through New-

port, where it is navigable for vessels of eighty tons burthen, it joins the sea at Cowes; it forms an excellent and capacious harbour for shipping. The Wootton river, or Fishbourne Creek, is navigable, for small craft only, as far as the village of Wootton. The Yar rises near Freshwater Gate, and flows into the Solent at Yarmouth.

DIVISIONS.

The Medina, as before mentioned, divides the island into two divisions, the East and West Medine. The East Medine contains fourteen parishes, the West Medine sixteen parishes.

BAST MEDINE.	WEST MEDINE.			
Brading.	Northwood.			
St. Helens.	Newport.			
Yaverland.	St. Nicholas.			
Shanklin.	Carisbrooke.			
Bonchurch.	Gatcombe.			
Newchurch.	Kingston.			
St. Lawrence.	Chale.			
Whitwell.	Shorwell.			
Niton.	Brixton.			
Godshill.	Mottistone.			
Arreton.	Calbourne.			
Binstead.	Shalfleet.			
Wootton.	Brooke.			
Whippingham.	Thorley.			
•• •	Yarmouth.			
	Freshwater.			

In all ecclesiastical affairs, reference is made to the See of Winchester, of which the island forms a portion.

THE MILITARY AND CIVIL AUTHORITIES IN THR ISLAND.

Governor and Captain-General, . . EARL OF MALMESBURY. DITTO. Lieutenant-Governor, . . GENERAL ARCHDALL. Lord YARBOROUGH. Vice-Admiral, . EARL OF MALMESBURY. . MARQUESS OF ANGLESEY. Captain of Carisbrooke Castle, Ditto of Cowes Castle, . . . Ditto of Sandown Fort, . SIR WILLIAM WYNNE.

Deputy Vice-Admiral, WILLIAM HEARN, Esq.

MAGISTRATES

Of the Isle of Wight, and their Residences.

Rev. JAMES WORSLEY (Chairman), Billingham. Sir RICHARD G. SIMEON, Bart. M.P. St. John's, near Ryde; and Swainston.

GEORGE PLAYER, Esq. Ryde House. THOMAS ROBERT BRIGSTOCKE, Esq. R. N. Stone Pitts, near Ryde.

ALEXANDER CAMPBELL, Esq. Gatcombe.

ALEXANDER G. CAMPBELL, Esq. Ditto. Rev. Dr. WORSLEY, Gatcombe Parsonage.

Rev. R. W. WHITE, Wootton.

Rev. GEORGE BURRARD, Yarmouth.

Rev. H. ATKINS, Arreton. Sir G. E. HAMMOND, Bart. Norton, near Yarmouth.

Lord YARBOROUGH, Appuldercombe.

JAMES BARLOW HOY, Esq. Medina Hermitage. GEORGE BURRARD, Esq. M.P. Yarmouth.

Hon. C. A. Worsley Pelham, M.P. Appuldercombe.

THOMAS SEWELL, Esq. Newport. Sir RICHARD BASSETT, Knt. Ditto.

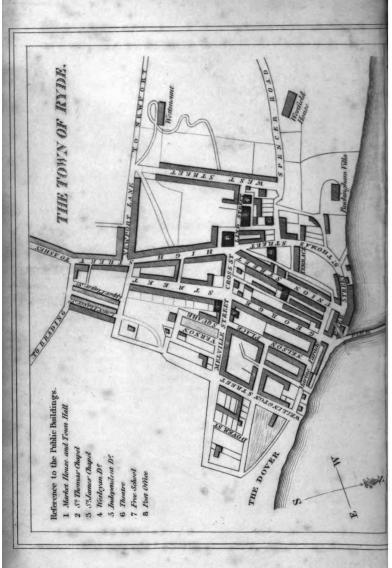
PERCY SCOTT, Esq. Ditto.

C. B. Roe, Esq. Ditto. HENRY BLAKE, Esq. Ditto.

Magistrates of Newport.

Steward of the Island, and Deputy to the THOMAS SEWELL, Esq.





CHAP. III.

RYDE.

VISITORS to the Isle of Wight, from London, or the North of England, generally take the Steam Packet at Portsmouth, and land at Ryde. We shall therefore, pursuing the usual route, commence our description of this

"Beauteous gem, set in the silver sea,"

with an account of the Town of RYDE. Approaching it from the water, the effect is very imposing; house rising above house to the top of a hill, considerably elevated above the level of the sea, interspersed with trees of a fine growth, and numberless evergreens, give it, on a fine winter's day, a varied, rich, and fresh appearance, indicative of the mildness of the climate, of which few places in this kingdom can as justly boast; whilst true it is, that the softness of the air, and the equable temperature of the climate, render this a desirable place of resort for the invalid during the winter months, as its open situation, and the constant interest excited by the arrival and departure of the homeward and outwardbound Indiamen, and other vessels, furnish amusement to the mind, and pleasing objects to contemplate. The Pier, stretching out into the sea, commands attention: to the right of it is seen a noble pile of buildings, called Brigstocke Terrace; behind which, the elegant spire of St. Thomas's church, adds a point of considerable attraction to the view: further to the right are the Market House and Town Hall, adjoining which is the neat chapel of St. James. A windmill on the top of the hill forms a beautiful feature in the landscape; and near the shore are marine residences of the Duke of Buckingham and Earl Spencer.

The Town is laid out with great regularity, as regards the streets, which are wide, and well paved; they run in parallel lines from north to south, and are intersected by handsome streets at right angles. The buildings are chiefly in the cottage style, detached, with gardens before them, or are situated in the midst of smooth lawns. Every diversity of style may be found in their mode of building,-the splendid mansion, the cottage ornée, the Swiss cottage, and the modern Gothic. Within the last two years, houses of a very superior description have been built, possessing every comfort and requisite, in themselves, to form desirable winter residences; and many families of the highest respectability are permanently domiciled in the town. Shops of all kinds supply not only the necessaries, but the luxuries, of life; while competition, in every branch of trade, secures the civility and attention of the shopkeepers.

THE PIER.

This delightful marine promenade, forming perhaps one of the most interesting in the kingdom, is 1740 feet in length, or one-third of a mile. An Act of Parliament having been obtained, the foundation stone was laid in ancient masonic form by the late Richard Holmes, Esq. M.P. for Newport, as acting Provincial Grand Master, in the absence of Sir Leonard Worsley Holmes, attended by a numerous assemblage of brethren, on the 29th of June, 1813; after which a public dinner took place on the Dover, Earl Spencer in the chair. The Pier was opened the year following, the funds having been raised by shares of £.50 each. There are six flights of steps leading to the water at regular intervals, and two at the extremity, to facilitate the landing at all times of the tide, which afford considerable accommodation to the invalid, and parties on the water generally. Seats, sheltered from the weather, are placed in different parts, and a railing extends the whole distance, This Pier runs out from the shore in a direction due North: at the entrance, which is an arched gateway, is a handsome lodge for the receiver of the toll, which is twopence for each individual, every time he passes on the Pier; but visitors and families may subscribe by the week, month, or year. The subscription for an individual is one shilling and sixpence per week; for a family, six shillings.

On entering the Pier gate, Calshot Castle, and the entrance to the Southampton water, attract attention, with the spires of the churches, and the houses of that

town rising in the distance: following the shore, Stokes Bay and Anglesea conduct the eye to the Royal Hospital at Haslar, and to Portsmouth, with the masts of part of the navy, and the buildings of the dock-yard in the distance. Pursuing the line of coast, is Southsea Castle, and Hayling Island, over which may be seen the spire and bell tower of Chichester cathedral; while farther to the eastward, Selsey Bill leads the view of the spectator to the British Channel. To the timid, who are frightened at being on the water, the Pier presents innumerable attractions, as, in addition to the advantages of prospect derived from sailing, they can add the exercise of walking. The arrival and departure of the steam packets;—the numerous boats constantly sailing about; -the merchantmen, daily arriving and departing; -and in these "piping times of peace," the occasional arrival or departure of ships of war, with their salutes, give such interest to the scene, that hour after hour imperceptibly glides away. Nor is the Pier itself the least attractive part of this lovely scene, from the number, elegance, and beauty of the fair promenaders. On returning towards the town, the view of Norris Castle, and the vessels in Cowes' Roads, arrest attention, guiding the eve across Wotton Creek to Binstead, the Mother Bank, and the mansion of George Player, Esq.; the marine residences of Earl Spencer and the Duke of Buckingham; Ryde; the Dover; over which is seen the beautiful woods of St. John's; the residence of Sir Richard Simeon, Bart.; Appley; St. Clare, the castellated marine retreat of Lord Vernon; to Sea View, or Nettlestone, with Priory Point in the extreme distance, and the eye

rests again on ocean's wide expanse. Such is the scene through the day! Nor do the attractions lessen with the approach of eve;—a more enchanting walk cannot be imagined, when the full orb of night, rising in cloudless majesty, throws a brightness around, scarce feebler than the day, tinging the woods, the cliffs, the water, with its silver rays. At such an hour as this, the meditative mind will find ample food for contemplation, as it perhaps involuntarily wanders from the enchanting beauties of the scenery to home and absent friends, or the recollections of the "hopes and fears of childhood's days."

ASSEMBLY ROOMS.

These are situated in Union Street, at the Marine Library and Reading Rooms of Mr. P. T. Hellyer, where a variety of London papers, pamphlets, &c. are daily on the table; while music and card parties form attractions in the evening, which are enlivened by a weekly assembly, during the season. In the winter, assemblies are held once a month. The front is adorned with a handsome balcony, the viranda commanding a fine marine view. There is also an elegant billiard table, for the recreation of those who play that fascinating game.

THE THEATRE.

The Theatre stands at the top of Union Street; it is small, but neatly fitted up, and is under the direction of Mr. Barnett, the spirited manager of the Reading

circuit. The company is highly respectable and efficient; and as regards the acting, costume, dresses, and decorations, the performances would reflect credit on an establishment of much higher pretensions. The theatre is usually open during the months of July, August, and September.

THE POST OFFICE.

The Post Office is situated in Union Street, next door but one below Sheridan's Family Hotel and Boarding House. The postmaster is Mr. Turtle. The mails from London and other parts arrive at nine o'clock in the morning, and the letters are delivered at ten. The mail leaves for London, and all parts of England, at seven o'clock during the summer months; but it is necessary that all letters should be in the office by half-past six o'clock. During the winter months, the mail is dispatched at four o'clock.

MARKET HOUSE.

On the 14th of May, 1829, an Act of Parliament was obtained for the improvement of the town, and erecting a Market House and Town Hall, and to provide for the paving, cleansing, watching, and lighting the town: in pursuance of the powers vested in the Commissioners, the present structure was erected, in Lind Street, the Masonic brethren, with their regalia, attending the Commissioners. The foundation stone was laid in due form. The late venerable Dr. Lind, M.D., to whose munificence the town is considerably indebted, having

prepared the cement, Brother Sheridan, Acting Worshipful Master of the Ryde Lodge, assisted by the brethren, proceeded to lay the stone, in the presence of an immense number of spectators. On the 1st of June, 1831, another procession took place, to fix the cope stone, which ceremony was performed by Brother Sheridan, in the presence of the Right Honourable Lord Yarborough, the Provincial Grand Master of the Isle of Wight, assisted by nearly all the fraternity in the island, and many from Portsmouth, Portsea, Gosport, Arundel, &c. &c.; after which the magistrates certified the completion of the building, and the Market was proclaimed in the usual form by William Hearn, Esq. Town Clerk.

The Market House is a handsome building, having a frontage to the South of 198 feet. At the West end is the Fish Market; next are the Butchers' shops, with a pump of excellent water. The centre is intended for the Corn Market; and the eastern division is appropriated to fruit, poultry, vegetables, &c. The market is well supplied with fish, meat, fruit, vegetables, poultry, butter, &c., many of the country people resorting hither from the back of the island. The market days are Tuesdays and Fridays; but the market is open daily, to meet the wants of the residents. The Cattle Market is in front of the building.

THE TOWN HALL

is erected over the Corn Market, being the centre of the building; it consists of an elegant room, 44 feet by 26, opening by sliding doors into a room, 15 feet by 20,

where the Commissioners for Improving the Town hold monthly meetings. When both rooms are thrown into one, it forms a room 60 feet in length:—the view from this apartment is very extensive, and fraught with interest. Balls are occasionally held here.

THE FREE SCHOOL.

This building, which was erected by voluntary contributions, was opened the 31st of August, 1812. It stands in Melville Street. The erection, though simple in its elevation, is admirably adapted to the purpose for which it was intended. The entrance is through a small court yard, enclosed by a wall, which leads to a spacious room, where the boys are instructed; on each side are wings:—in the eastern wing the Committees meet, and the girls are instructed; the western wing is the residence of the Master. This institution is supported by voluntary contributions, and by charity sermons at St. Thomas's Chapel, twice in the season. The number of children at present in the school is 330; of which number 220 are boys, and 110 girls. The children are educated on the national plan.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Attached to St. James's Chapel, the Independents, and the Wesleyan Methodists, are Sunday Schools; and whatever difference there may be in the religious creeds of the various congregations, they seem to emulate each other by a generous rivalry in the dissemination of useful knowledge.

ST. THOMAS'S CHAPEL.

Ryde being situated in the Parish of Newchurch, which is one of the most extensive parishes in the island, extending from Ryde in the North to Ventnor in the South, both inclusive, the parish church is seven miles from Rvde. To obviate the inconvenience. arising from the distance of the parish church, Thomas Player, Esq., in the year 1719, erected a chapel, on the site of the present building, endowing it with a stipend of ten pounds, payable annually, to the vicar of the parish for officiating therein, or providing some one to do the duty. The number of residents, and annual visitors, having materially increased within the last few years, the chapel was found to be much too small to afford the accommodation required. In the year 1827. George Player, Esq. erected the present structure on the foundation of the old chapel. The elevation is very elegant; a well-proportioned tower rises to a considerable height, terminating in a light and lofty spire, which serves as a landmark to the mariner, and forms a delightful object in the landscape. A clock is placed in the tower, which, with a wing on either side, form the three entrances to the edifice. The parapet is embattled, and the walls are supported by massy buttresses: between these, Gothic windows give light to the interior, which is fitted up with neatness. The altar-piece is simple and elegant. A gallery runs round three sides of the building, and in the recesses of the wings are galleries for the charity children. The choir is placed

in a centre recess, which is intended at a future period for the reception of an organ, the want of which is the more to be regretted, as it is the only thing necessary to render the appointments of this elegant structure complete. Under the tower are the catacombs. Some venerable elms adorn the church-yard, and add materially to the beauty of the scenery. Divine service is performed in this chapel at eleven o'clock on Sunday mornings, and three o'clock in the afternoon, during the summer six months, but the latter hour is altered in the winter to half-past two. The Rev. William Moore, M.A., is the present highly respected and beloved curate.

ST. JAMES'S CHAPEL

is in Lind Street, on the West of the Market House, and was erected in the year 1827, by William Hughes Hughes, Esq., the present representative of the city of Oxford, and Alderman of Portsoken Ward, London. The chapel is under the licence of the Bishop of Winchester. The present proprietor, the Rev. Mr. Sibthorpe, having purchased the building of Mr. Hughes, has recently made considerable additions to it, by which means the accommodation is materially increased. Great attention has been paid in fitting up the interior with elegance and neatness. There is a gallery round three sides of the building; and an excellent organ is placed in the West gallery. The altar is adorned with a fine specimen of modern stained glass. Over the West entrance is a cupola and clock. Divine service is performed here at half-past ten in the morning, and half-past six in the

evening, on Sunday, and at the same hour on Thursday evening. The following is the scale of prices at which sittings are let:—

For Two Sundays, . . . Four Shillings.

Three Ditto, . . . Five Shillings.

Four Ditto, . . . Six Shillings.

Six Ditto, . . . Eight Shillings.

Two Months, . . . Ten Shillings.

Three Ditto, . . . Twelve Shillings.

Six Ditto, . . . Seventeen Shillings.

One Year, . . . Twenty-four Shillings.

THE INDEPENDENT CHAPEL,

in George Street, has not much pretension to elegance in its elevation; the interior is neat, and the galleries extend around the building. In a semicircular recess, to the East, behind the pulpit, stands the organ. The present minister is the talented and benevolent Rev. Mr. Guyer.

THE METHODIST CHAPEL

is a small building, with a gallery on three sides. A due regard to neatness and utility has been had in fitting up the interior. It is situated in Spencer Road.

HOTELS AND INNS.

The principal Hotels, are Yelf's, in Union Street; and the Pier Hotel, kept by Mr. Daniel Hale, which is close to that delightful promenade, the Pier:—the beauty of the situation is unrivalled, and the accommodation excellent. The Crown Commercial

Hotel, High Street, conducted by Woodrow, is well adapted for commercial gentlemen. The Star, Upper Ryde, is a comfortable house, and the charges moderate.

FAMILY HOTEL, AND BOARDING HOUSE.

This establishment, which is conducted by Mr. and Mrs. Sheridan, is situated in Union Street, opposite Yelf's Hotel. From the admirable situation of the house, it commands the most extensive and interesting views, comprising Anglesea, Stokes' Bay, Portsmouth with its Harbour, Spithead, Chichester Cathedral, Hayling Island, Selsey Bill, &c. The utmost attention is paid to the comforts of the inmates, and the establishment may vie with any of a similar nature in the kingdom. To individuals, the advantages of such an establishment are manifold; the facility of making parties for excursions by land or water, and the enjoyment of the best society, are amongst some that may be enumerated; while those who wish retirement, may be as private as they can desire. The house is peculiarly adapted for the comfort and accommodation of passengers waiting to embark at Spithead, or the Mother-Bank, for India, or other parts. There is a large garden and lawn attached to the premises, which are not the least of its attractions.

THE BANK.

On Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, during the season, and on Tuesdays and Fridays in the winter, a

branch bank of that highly respectable firm, Messrs. Kirkpatrick, of Newport, is open, adjoining the library of Mr. P. T. Hellyer, Union Street. The accommodation afforded by this arrangement to the residents, and visitors in particular, is considerable.

BATHS.

Near the Pier are Kemp's excellent Hot and Cold Baths, Shower Baths, &c., which are well fitted up. Rayner's Baths, in Pier Street, have been recently much improved, by erecting a new building, in which the latest and best arrangements have been adopted with a view of consulting the comfort and accommodation of the visitors. Both establishments are well conducted, and the valetudinarian is certain of receiving every civility and attention.

SEA BATHING.

Sea Bathing, at Ryde, is particularly good, and may be enjoyed at any state of the tide: the sands run out to a great distance, and in the summer time absorb such a degree of heat from the sun, that the flowing tide receives considerable warmth, rendering the water particularly grateful to the bather. The situation of Ryde gives it peculiar advantages over those places opening directly on the wide expanse of ocean, where certain winds cause a powerful swell, rendering bathing not only insecure, but at times impracticable, a circumstance entirely unknown here. The machines are

numerous, and well arranged, belonging to Kemp and Mundell.

THE FAIR

is held annually, on the 6th of July; and if not at present of that importance which it was in days of yore, when travelling was both tedious and dangerous, and the inhabitants of the different towns and villages were indebted to itinerant merchants for their annual supplies, still it affords a little recreation to the inhabitants of the town and surrounding villages. It is held in the High Street, and is annually assuming a more respectable and attractive character.

THE REGATTA

generally takes place early in September, when prizes are contested by the different class wherries, and pilot vessels; rowing matches also contribute to the amusements of the day. The beneficial effect of the Regatta is considerable to the boatmen, as it causes a generous rivalry amongst them to keep their boats and sails in the best possible order, and the visitors derive advantage from the skill obtained in the sailing matches. The whole of the course is visible from the Pier, which is invariably crowded with elegantly-dressed residents, and visitors from all parts of the surrounding shores and country. His late Majesty was a contributor to the fund, as is also our present patriotic Monarch. The noblemen in the town and neighbourhood, and the inha-

bitants at large, subscribe handsomely; thus promoting the liberal views which first led to the establishment of the Regatta. During the day, the company are enlivened by a band of music; in the evening there is a splendid display of fireworks on the Pier; and a Regatta ball is held at the Town Hall.

The Ryde boats are of a very superior description, and admirably adapted for aquatic excursions: they may be hired for two shillings and sixpence the hour, or by the trip, or day; in the latter cases, it is best to make an agreement previous to starting. The boatmen are clean, civil, skilful, and attentive, and afford the stranger every information in their power. The boats are kept remarkably clean, and the sails and appointments in the best possible order.

MAGISTRATES, &c.

The magistrates residing in the immediate neighbourhood of Ryde, are—

Sir Richard Simeon, Bart., St. John's.

George Player, Esq., Ryde House.

Captain Thomas Robert Brigstocke, R.N. Stone Pitts.

All causes of assault, &c. &c. are heard at Newport, on Saturdays. The four constables of the manor of Ashey and Ryde are appointed at a manor court, held annually at Ashey, in November*.

[•] See page 62.

SCHOOLS.

The facility of affording instruction to the youth of both sexes has not been overlooked in this delightful spot. Mr. Lush, of Play Street, about a mile from Ryde, has a large establishment for young gentlemen, placed in a most beautiful and commanding situation. The establishment of Mrs. Knight, in George Street, for young ladies, also deserves mention.

STEAM PACKETS

were first introduced between this place and Portsmouth, in the month of April 1825, and were established by a number of spirited individuals, who subscribed the capital required, in £.25 shares. The facility of intercourse thus afforded, has added materially to the advantages, not only of Ryde, but the island generally. Indeed, this town may be considered, with regard to steam communication, what Birmingham is in coach communication,—the centre, whence the traveller may diverge in any direction, business, pleasure, or the search for health may dictate; as the following list of steam boats will fully prove.

From Ryde to Portsmouth, every day, at 9, 11, 3, 5, and 7 o'clock.

Portsmouth to Ryde, every day, at 8, 10, 12, 4, and 6 o'clock.

The Passage on the Quarter Deck is 1s. 6d. each.

Ditto

Forecastle, 1s. boatage included,
The distance is usually performed in about thirty-

five to forty minutes. These Packets convey horses and carriages across by tow boats; and such is the facility of embarking and debarking, that visitors may leave London in their own carriages, and get out of them on their arrival at their destination in the island. The distance is about six miles across*. The Rocket and Independent London coaches, and the Brighton coach, wait the arrival of the nine o'clock packets from Ryde, thus enabling the traveller to reach London or Brighton the same evening. The same coaches reach Portsmouth in time for the six o'clock packet, affording the passengers an opportunity of reaching the island by seven o'clock.

Steam packets call off the end of the Pier, for Southampton and Cowes, at half-past nine in the morning, and three o'clock in the afternoon, during the summer, and at two o'clock only in the winter.

The fare, in the best cabin, to Southampton, is 3s. 6d. each.

Ditto to Cowes, 2s. 6d.

Forecastle to Southampton, 2s. 6d.

Ditto to Cowes, 1s. 6d.

Boatage at Ryde, 3d. each, which are extra Ditto at Southampton, 2d. ditto, charges.

During the summer, a steam packet leaves every Monday morning, at ten o'clock, for Brighton, and returns at the same hour from Brighton on the following day. Fare, ten shillings each person, each way. On Wednesdays, a steam packet goes round the island,

[·] See Appendix.

which voyage is generally performed in $7\frac{1}{2}$ or $8\frac{1}{2}$ hours, according to the wind; the charge is five shillings each.

The Southampton and Havre-de-Grace steamers call off the Pier, going and returning, for the accommodation of individuals visiting or returning from France; and passports can be obtained at the office of Mr. Lindergreen, French Consul at Portsmouth. They leave Southampton, Tuesdays and Thursdays, calling off Ryde about nine or ten o'clock in the morning, and arrive about six or seven o'clock on the evenings of Mondays and Fridays.

Fare.—Each Passenger	.2	2	0	
Children under 12 years	1	1	0	
Servants,	1	10	0	
Carriages	4	4	0	
Horses	4	4	0	
Dogs	0	5	0	

They generally make the voyage in ten or twelve hours. The packets are the Camilla, and George IV.

The Ariadne, Captain Bazin, for Guernsey and Jersey, leaves Southampton on Tuesday, at six o'clock in the evening; and the Lord Beresford, on Friday evening. Visitors desirous of taking a trip to those islands can join the packet off Calshot Castle, by taking a boat from Ryde, or taking the Southampton steamer. These vessels return on Mondays and Fridays.

Fare.—Best Cabin	£.1	11	6
Fore Cabin	0	18	0
Fore Deck	0	10	6

The Brunswick, Captain Russell, leaves Portsmouth every Tuesday and Friday evening, at six o'clock, for Plymouth, Falmouth, &c., and arrives every Tuesday and Friday morning, from Plymouth.

Fare.—Best Cabin £.1 5 0

The steam packet, Glasgow, starts from Lymington to Yarmouth, Cowes, and Portsmouth, on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, at eight o'clock, and returns from Portsmouth to Cowes, Yarmouth, and Lymington, the same afternoon, at three o'clock.

Fare.—Quarter Deck from Portsmouth 3s. 3s. 6d.
Steerage Ditto 2s. 2s. 6d.

COACHES.

Coaches leave the Pier Hotel, Ryde, for Newport, at half-past eleven in the morning, and seven o'clock in the evening, on the arrival of the packet from Portsmouth; but during the winter months, the departure of the latter coach is altered to four o'clock. They arrive from Newport, at the Pier Hotel, at nine o'clock in the morning, and four o'clock in the afternoon.

CARRIERS.

There are two carriers, Mundell and Edwards, daily, from Newport to Ryde; and Locke from Ryde to Newport.

CARS, &c.

To visit the back or interior of the island, post chaises, sociables, or cars, may be hired for the day or excursion, at Yelf's, or Wedgwood's, in Union Street; at Rayner's, in Pier Street; or Hale's, Pier Hotel.

The usual charges are, for a Sociable, per day, £.1 11 6

Car 0 18 0

Gig 14s. to 16s.

TRADE.

A considerable retail trade, in every branch of business, is carried on in Ryde; and numbers of vessels bound to the East or West Indies, and other parts, call here to take in their stock. Much business is done by the corn factors. There is also a ship and boat builder's yard, from whence several yachts have been launched. Vast numbers of calves, lambs, and sheep are shipped here for the London market. The shops are excellent, and every article of luxury, or necessity, may be obtained with the greatest facility. The lodging houses are numerous, well furnished, and most of them beautifully situated, with gardens and pleasure grounds, commanding marine views, and a considerable extent of the opposite shore. The population of the town, according to the census of 1831, amounts to 3396.

The East Medina Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, No. 291, meet regularly on the third Wednesday of every month, at seven o'clock, in the Town Hall.

ZMalks

IN THE VICINITY OF RYDE.

BINSTEAD,

A delightful walk of about a mile and a half from Ryde. Pursuing the road thither through Spencer Road, a villa, called Bucklands, forms a picturesque object on the right. A short distance farther is the lodge and entrance to the grounds of Ryde House, the seat of George Player, Esq.; from thence a footpath across the fields, commanding the most lovely views, conducts the pedestrian to the boundary of the grounds of Brookfield Cottage, commanding a beautiful combination of marine and forest scenery; and Brookfield Lodge, the newly erected picturesque residence of the Rev. Augustus Hewitt, who also possesses the Parsonage at Binstead. Leaving the grounds on the left, we proceed to the church at Binstead, which is a small building supposed to have been erected by one of the bishops of Winchester; it is uninteresting, either in an architectural or antiquarian point of view. A rude and ancient piece of sculpture forms the key-stone of the arch of the South door, and is supposed by some to have considerable resemblance to the Thor of our Saxon ancestors; most probably it is only a rude figure used by the Saxon or Norman architects for key-stones. Adjoining the North side of the church-yard, stands the elegant marine cottage of John Fleming, Esq., who has recently erected a bath on the shore, which is highly picturesque, being built in the Swiss style. A short distance from the church-yard is the Parsonage, the delightful residence of the Rev. Augustus Hewitt, who, with much courtesy, permits strangers to view the charming grounds of this retreat, every Monday afternoon after four o'clock, and every Friday morning before one o'clock. The magnificent trees, and the luxurious growth of the choicest shrubs, together with an immense variety of the most beautiful flowers, form a coup d'œil which, combined with the extent, variety, beauty, and interest of the view, cannot be surpassed. Art and nature are happily combined, while the latter is not sacrificed to the former. The cottage is small, but convenient in its interior arrangements.

The parish of Binstead was originally a grant of half a hide of land, from William the Conqueror and William Rufus, to Walkeline, Bishop of Winchester, for the purpose of digging stone for repairing the cathedral. The uneven surface of the ground, in the vicinity of the church, marks the situation of those ancient quarries. The registers of Winchester state, that when William of Wykeham rebuilt the body of that ancient edifice, the stone was procured from the Isle of Wight; and the Abbot of the adjacent monastery of Quarr was entrusted with the conveyance of the stone to the shore.

A beautiful and shaded walk, through Quarr copse, leads to the Quarr farm, where may be traced the remains of the ancient abbey of that name. This celebrated abbey was founded in the year 1131, being the thirty-second year of the reign of Henry I., by Baldwin Earl of Devon, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. The monks, by whom it was inhabited, were removed from Savigny, in Normandy, and are considered the first of the Cistertian order that came into England. The manor of Arreton was given, by Baldwin, to the Abbot

of Savigny, in order to establish this monastery. In 1132. its revenue amounted to £.134 per annum. The chapel of the establishment contained the remains of Earl Baldwin, Adeliza, his countess, and Henry, their son. The earl died at Quarr, in the year 1154, being the first year of Henry II. Three hundred pounds were bequeathed by William de Vernon, for the purpose of erecting a tomb for his father and himself*. A monument to the memory of the Lady Cicely, second daughter of Edward IV., was erected in the chapel. After its dissolution by Henry VIII., it was purchased, for the sake of its materials, by a merchant of Southampton, named George Mills. With a spirit worthy of the darker ages, he devoted to destruction the venerable pile, with its sacred altars, noble monuments, and sepulchres of the illustrious dead. Subsequently, the property was purchased by the Lord Chief Justice Fleming. and it still remains in the hands of his descendants. probably received its name of Quarr, or, as it is called in some of the old grants, Quarraria, from the stone quarries which were in its vicinity. It was anciently encircled by a wall, nearly a mile in circumference, the greater part of which still remains. This ancient building is nearly demolished,—a few of the walls alone The architecture, as far as the remains will remain.

[•] William de Vernon left lands to the Abbey, for masses to be said for the souls of King Henry II.; his father, Baldwin, the founder; his mother, Adeliza; his elder brother, Baldwin; Mabel, his wife; and his son, Baldwin. This deed is dated the 4th of September, 1206.

allow an opinion to be formed, was a mixture of Saxon and Gothic. The church or chapel of the monastery may be traced at the East end, and some vaulted cellars are discernible at the West end*. Part of the walls which remain are converted into barns and stables, and a farm-house has been erected for the residence of the bailiff. The distance from the shore is inconsiderable; and just above high water mark Edward III. erected a fort for its defence, but not a vestige of it now remains.

The country around is richly wooded, and a pleasant walk of about a mile leads to Fish House, a small village at the mouth of Wotton Creek; here is a ship-wright's yard, in which several frigates have been built, and likewise some of the finest yachts, belonging to members of the Royal Yacht Club. The opposite shore of the creek is beautifully wooded to the water's edge. From hence the pedestrian may return to Ryde, by turning to the left, and entering the main road from Newport; or, if the tide is out, a walk is practicable along the shore, although the large pieces of rock may occasionally present momentary obstacles.

The mill, at Aldermore, is about a mile and a half to the South of Ryde, and will amply repay the trouble of a walk, by the extent, variety, and beauty of the prospect, which comprises a highly-interesting panoramic view. In the vicinity of the mill is Haylands, the seat of Admiral Locke; and Upton House, the

[•] The North gate of this once magnificent Abbey, leading to the sea, was armed with a portcullis.

newly-erected mansion of James Lind, Esq. M.D. There are several excellent houses in the neighbour-hood, which command extensive views of the sea, with hill and dale, and forest scenery in their immediate vicinities. Turning to the left, is a road towards Small Brook Heath, where four roads meet, one of which leads back to Ryde.

The Dover, to the East of the Pier, is a large tract of waste land, immediately opposite Portsmouth, and is a place of considerable resort. It is much to be regretted, that a place possessing the natural advantages which this piece of ground presents, should not induce sufficient public spirit to convert it into an attractive drive and promenade. This desirable object might be effected by an arrangement with the proprietor; and a little labour would render this spot one of the most attractive in the island. The Dover is the burial place of several of the gallant but unfortunate crew of the Royal George, of 108 guns, which noble vessel sunk at Spithead, on the 29th August, 1782, about half-way between Ryde and Portsmouth. She formed part of a fleet destined for Gibraltar, and was considered at that period the finest ship in the navy; she was commanded by Admiral Kempenfeldt. Previous to sailing, it was deemed necessary to examine the ship's bottom; and in order to do so it was needful to lay her on her side. which was done early in the morning of the above day. The gallant but ill-fated Admiral was writing in his cabin, and most of the people were between decks, when an unexpected squall of wind threw her so much on her

broadside, that the flag at her mast head dipped in the water; she then rolled over on the other side, her yard arms touching the sea; after which she righted, and sank in nearly an upright position. The lower ports not being secured, probably the danger increased, and caused her to fill. A victualler was alongside, which was swallowed up in the whirlpool, caused by the sinking of so vast a body. Other small craft were much endangered, but escaped, in consequence of their distance from the spot where this lamentable accident occurred. The ship was much crowded with people from the shore, who were taking leave of their relatives and friends. It was estimated that three hundred women were on board, and many wives and children of the crew. The crew, including marines, then on board, was nearly nine hundred. The boats of the fleet saved many who were on the deck. The admiral, with several officers, and the greater part of those who were below, sunk with the vessel. Nearly three hundred were preserved. It was impossible to ascertain the exact number of souls on board, at the time of the catastrophe, but it was calculated that near one thousand individuals were thus hurried into eternity. Admiral Kempenfeldt was nearly seventy years of age, and was universally lamented. He was considered one of the first of our naval officers, for courage, judgment, nautical skill, and humanity. The Royal George had had more flags hoisted in her than any other ship in the navy, having been repeatedly the seat of command under several of our greatest commanders, and on the most important occasions; she also carried heavier metal and taller masts than any other vessel then in the service. Many of the bodies were washed on shore, near the Dover, and found a rude sepulchre within its sandy soil. It is a singular circumstance that, in the reign of Henry VIII., during an engagement between the English fleet, under Viscount Lisle in the *Great Harry*, and a French fleet commanded by Admiral D'Annebaut, the *Mary Rose*, one of the largest of the British ships, commanded by Sir George Carew, was overpowered from the weight of her own ordnance, and in consequence of keeling considerably, the water rushed in at the port-holes, and caused her to sink, near the same spot.

From the Dover, the view of Ryde with its pier, Norris Castle in the distance, with the beautiful foliage of St. John's, is peculiarly delightful; while Portsmouth and Anglesea are attractive features on the opposite shore. At the extremity of the Dover stands Appley House, the property of Richard Hutt, Esq. much and deservedly admired for the beauty of its situation. The wood presents an agreeable retreat from the heat of summer, and, at its extremity, leads to some excellent sands; or, if a shorter walk is desirable, a road through the fields leads to the Brading and Ryde road.

Proceeding along the shore, the Swiss cottage of James Wyatt, Esq. surrounded with trees of excellent growth, arrests the attention. Farther on is a large saltern; but the works are now discontinued. Passing Sea Field, the charming villa of Mrs. Beach, we arrive at Sea View, formerly called Old Fort, and also Nettle-

stone. The village is exceedingly small, consisting of a few lodging-houses, which, from the beauty of their. situation, are during the summer months constantly occupied. The sea here opens with much boldness, and the opposite coast of Sussex bounds the distant view. The finely-wooded estate of the Priory is very beautiful, while the massy pieces of rock present a striking contrast to the sands. The Priory is an estate belonging to Edward Grose Smith, Esq. The house has nothing to recommend it to the architect or antiquarian. present mansion stands on the site of a house of Cluniac monks, and was formerly a cell to a Priory in Normandy. The parish being small, the superior originally granted a licence to the prior, to celebrate mass and administer the sacraments. A farm-house succeeded to the holy pile, at its suppression by Henry VI., who bestowed the living on Eton College, to which it still belongs. Some of its remains are still to be traced in the farm and out-buildings. The building was enlarged and improved by Sir Nash Grose, Knight, late one of the judges of the Court of King's Bench. In contemplating the beauty of its situation, which in some respects can scarcely be equalled, and in no instance surpassed throughout the island, we need not wonder at its having been the site of a priory, the holy fathers invariably displaying their judgment by selecting the finest situations. The grounds are the great object of curiosity to visitors, and are well laid out, containing some of the finest-grown trees in the island. Through the wood, which skirts the shore, walks extend from one extremity

of the grounds to the other; and in judiciously-selected situations seats are placed, for the enjoyment, through admirably arranged vistas, of these prospects of varied and peculiar beauty. The Watch-House Point closes the scene towards St. Helens, and overlooks new beauties, unfolding the charming picture of Brading Haven, with the little village of Bembridge, and its chapel on the opposite side of the harbour, crowned by the downs, which forms the summit of the Culver Cliffs, and the projecting foreland of Bembridge, which is the Eastern extremity of the island.

A floating light, called the Nab, has been placed by the Trinity House off this point, as a guide to vessels coming into St. Helens' road, or Spithead, during the night.

Returning to Ryde, where the road turns to Sea View. is Sea Grove, the residence of the Rev. John Le Marchant. At a little distance, in a commanding situation, stands the villa of John Leacock, Esq. It is a singular looking structure, displaying little architectural skill. About two miles from Ryde, on the right, stands Woodlands, the elegant villa of Charles Cooch, Esq., surrounded with timber of admirable growth, and possessing charming views of the sea, and opposite shore. little distance to the left stands Westridge, the residence of Mr. Young. About a mile and a half from Ryde, the road takes a turn to the shore, leading to Puckpool and Cliff Cottage, before mentioned as being built in the Swiss style, the seat of Lewis Wyatt, Esq., adjoining to whose grounds is St. Clare. This splendid castle is the residence of Lord Vernon, and is beautifully situated:

various groups of majestic trees adorn the grounds, which are laid out with considerable taste. The view from the Keep is very beautiful, comprising Southampton, the New Forest, Portsmouth with its harbour, Selsey Bill, with the Channel opening to the Eastward; while the sylvan scenery of the interior of the island completes a view, of which the most vivid description can give but a faint idea.

St. John's, the delightful residence of Sir Richard Simeon, Bart. M.P., bounds the domain of the Noble Lord; and, from the similarity of situation, commands nearly the same extensive prospect. The woods extend to the shore, and add materially to the beauty of this part of the island. At the bottom of the hill is Monk's Mead, so called from having originally belonged to the monks of Quarr Abbey. Ascending the hill, at a short distance from the turnpike, stands the beautiful mansion of Captain Ribouleau. This excursion may be shortened at pleasure, as several turns lead to the shore, thus enabling the pedestrian to shorten the walk at discretion. Rural walks present themselves in every direction, each affording the greatest variety of interesting views*.

A pleasant drive from Ryde is to the summit of Binstead Hill, where, turning to the left, is a good road through Firestone Copse, joining the Newport road at Wootton Bridge, and returning by the turnpike-road to Ryde.

EXCURSIONS BY WATER.

The superiority of the Ryde boats, and the admirable situation of the town, offer unequalled advantages to those who are fond of aquatic trips; for while enjoying the invigorating breeze on the surface of the deep, they can look forward to an interesting point as the extent of their voyage. Parties are often formed to visit the splendid ruins of Netley Abbey, on the banks of the Southampton Water, which cannot fail to gratify those who love to contemplate such relics of ancient days. The voyage may be extended to Southampton, or farther at pleasure. Portsmouth, with its dock-yard, and the vessels in the harbour, is a sail of no ordinary interest. The courtesy of the officers commanding our navy enables visitors to view those bulwarks of Britain. The order. regularity, size of the vessel, with her various appointments, will amply repay the best attention a visitor can bestow; and cannot fail to make a lasting impression on the memory. The Royal Yacht deserves a visit, the splendour of its interior, and the admirable arrangement of the accommodation, will greatly please the stranger. The Dock-yard, with its various stores and founderies, can be viewed at ten o'clock in the morning, or at two in the afternoon, on application to the Master Warden. The Block machinery is perhaps one of the most perfect productions of the kind in the world. The visitor is enabled to observe the manufacture from the moment the timber is brought into the building till the block is completely finished, and fit for use. If a proper state of the

tide is selected, the excursion may be extended to Porchester: its old castle will interest the antiquarian. The date of its erection is unknown, but in all probability it was a place of defence before the Christian era. The ruin evidences various styles of architecture, comprising the Roman, Norman, and Saxon: the massive tower is an object of considerable importance in the view. A short cruise from Ryde to Anglesea and Stokes Bay, is not devoid of interest.

To the Eastward a sail of greater extent than the preceding excursion may be made to Bembridge, at the mouth of Brading Haven, where a small inn enables the party to obtain refreshments. Taking advantage of the tide, a delightful sail may be taken to Wotton Bridge. The banks of the Creek are beautifully clothed with timber: proceeding further to the West, Cowes presents itself, where the party may land; and, after enjoying a ramble in the neighbourhood, return to their boat, and sail back to the pier, which at all states of the tide affords a convenient point for landing. The scenery that presents itself in these trips will be more amply pointed out in the excursion round the island by water.

EXCURSION

TO ST. HELENS, YAVERLAND, BEMBRIDGE, BRADING, ASHEY, AND RETURN TO RYDE.

The road to St. Helens follows the route described from the Priory to Ryde. Passing St. John's, St. Clare, Woodlands, Fairy Hill, and the entrance to the Priory,

we reach the church of St. Helens, situated about a mile from the village. It was consecrated by Bishop Trelawney, in 1719, and was considerably enlarged and improved in 1829. The old church stood on the Dover at the entrance of Brading Haven; but the sea having made considerable encroachments, it was destroyed, the tower alone remaining, which has been strengthened with solid masonry, to serve as a mark for vessels entering St. Helens' roads. The approach to the village commands extensive views of the Channel: and Brading Haven. at the time of high water, has all the appearance of a lovely lake. The village is situated on a rising ground. and forms a square, with the green in the centre. At the extremity of the Dover Point, a ferry-boat conveys passengers to Bembridge Point. There is also a horse boat for the conveyance of horses and carriages.

On reaching the Brading road, a short distance from the town, is a turn on the right leading to Nunwell, the fine old family mansion of Sir William Oglander, Bart. This ancient family came into England with the Norman conqueror. The downs shelter the house from the South-West winds. The estate is well clothed with fine timber, and is supposed to derive its name from the nuns of Ashey monastery resorting to a well on the domain for their supply of water. Pursuing the road, we arrive at

BRADING,

a market town, four miles from Ryde, and eight from Newport. The town consists of one long street, and has a market for corn on Mondays (the original grant for which was for Wednesday): also two fairs annually, one on the day of St. Philip and St. James; the other on the eve and day of St. Matthew; but they are now kept on the 12th of May and 2nd of October. It has also a court of pie poudre. Its earliest charter is dated in the reign of Edward VI., and the town is governed by a senior and junior bailiff, chosen annually, a recorder (for life), and thirteen jurats. The common seal is encircled with the motto of " The Kyng's Towne of Bradynge." The corporation pay an annual fine or fee-farm rent, into the Exchequer, of £.2 13s. 4d., or four marks; and derive their revenue from shops and trades, assessed according to ancient charter. The Town Hall is a small structure, now used as a schoolroom, and stands over the Market House. Near it is the Church, which is considered the oldest in the island; and the first religious establishment in the island is supposed to have been on its site. This sacred edifice is conjectured to have been erected in 704, by Wilfred, Bishop of Winchester, and his first convert to Christianity is said to have been baptized here. The building consists of a chancel, nave, and side aisles: the roof is supported by Saxon pillars*. The view from the church-

* A small chapel at the East end of the South aisle, behind a screen, is the place of interment of the ancient family of the Oglanders. The parish retains the sovereignty over the parishes of Yaverland and Shanklin, who are compelled to bury their dead here. The church is dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

yard is very beautiful. The following epitaph, to Mrs. Berry, has been rendered justly celebrated by the admirable music of Dr. Calcott:—

Forgive, blest shade, the tributary tear,

That mourns thy exit from a world like this;

Forgive the wish that would have kept thee here,

And stay'd thy progress to the seats of bliss.

No more confined to grov'ling scenes of night— No more a tenant pent in mortal clay; Now should we rather hail thy glorious flight, And trace thy journey to the realms of day.

The Haven contains between eight and nine hundred acres of marshy ground, which is covered at high water, and admits small vessels to the quay, where agricultural produce is shipped for other markets*.

YAVERLAND

is about a mile and a half from Brading. The parish is small, and its little church, surrounded with a grove of noble elms, is the most curious and one of the most ancient in the island. It is supposed to have been built by one of the Russell family, in the reign of Edward I. It consists of a body and chancel; the entrance is by a fine Saxon arch. Previous to being used as a parish

* Brading Haven, containing 856 acres of marshy ground, is covered every tide by the sea, which flows through the narrow inlet between St. Helens and Bembridge. Various attempts have been made to recover the land, but the discouragements arising from the sea making such frequent breaches, have compelled the abandonment of so desirable an object.

church, it was probably a private chapel, belonging to the lords of the manor. It pays ten shillings annually, as an acknowledgment, to the mother church of Brading, where they bury with their own minister. The parsonage is a beautiful object; the architecture is elegant; and some fine elms add considerably to its ornament. The Manor Farm, which is near it, is a respectable mansion of the period of James I. From hence is a fine view of Sandown Bay, and Dunnose Promontory in the distance. Proceeding over Bembridge Down, which forms the summit of the Culver Cliffs (and are four hundred feet above the level of the sea), the scenery is peculiarly beautiful. At the West end of the Culver Cliffs is Hermit's Hole; it penetrates into the rock about twenty feet, and is situated about thirty feet below the summit of the cliff. There is a path leading to it, but so steep, rugged, and dangerous, that only the most venturesome would attempt to descend. There is nothing in the cavern to compensate for the danger and difficulty incurred in reaching it. When once the descent is commenced, to return is impracticable, until the cave is gained, as the path is too narrow to allow a person to turn. These cliffs are much resorted to by gulls and pigeons; from the latter it received its name, culppe being the Saxon word for pigeon. Looking back, the valley opens between the downs of Brading and Yaverland, with the haven of the former, and St. Helens' roads, while the extremity of the vale is closed by Black Down and Gatcomb Hills. Pursuing our way along the cliffs we reach the Foreland, the easternmost point of the island; thence we reach

BEMBRIDGE POINT,

where several pleasant houses have been recently erected. The situation of this village is very beautiful, and it is adorned with an elegant chapel of ease, with a light spire, consecrated by Dr. Sumner, Bishop of Winchester, in 1827. There is also a school, supported by voluntary contributions, for the education of the labourers' children. The country is adorned with several neat mansions. St. Helens stands on the opposite side of the Haven. The walks here are rural and retired. On our return, we cross the Brading road, and, passing over the down of the same name, arrive at Ashey Sea-mark, on the lofty point of Ashey Down. This conspicuous land-mark was erected by Government in 1735, in order to facilitate the entrance of vessels into St. Helens' road, or Spithead. It is a triangular pyramid, constructed of stone, about twenty feet high. From this elevated point is one of the most extensive views in the island, comprising every diversity of scenery :- Portsmouth, Spithead, Chichester, Southampton Water, Hayling Island, Selsey Bill, with the Solent, and the English Channel, the Haven of Brading, Sandown Bay, the woods towards Wotton Bridge, Nunwell, and the richly-cultivated vales of Arreton and of Newchurch; in the distance are the hills of St. Catherine, Wroxall, and Shanklin, interspersed with seats, villas, and churches. At the foot of the hill, on the right of the road, stands Ashey Manor House and Farm, originally the site of a monastery, possessing

spacious and elegant suites of apartments, with chapel, cemetery, &c. From the period of Edward I. to Henry VIII. it was attached to the monastery of Whorley, near Andover. In the reign of Elizabeth, a poor woman, named Agnes Foster, was accused here, before the lord of the manor, as a witch; and such was the ignorance and bigotry of the period, that her little property was confiscated. The lord of the manor holds a court here annually in November, when the constables for Ashey and Ryde are chosen. The road from hence to Ryde is pleasant, and the views interesting.

FROM RYDE TO NEWPORT.

On leaving Ryde we pass Westmont, the seat of Mrs. Lind; a little farther on the right is Stone Pitts, the elegant Gothic residence of Capt. Brigstocke, R.N. Ascending the hill, the road on the right conducts to Binstead, while that on the left leads to Firestone Copse, and presents a pleasant drive through the wood to Wotton, returning to Ryde by the high road. Two miles from Ryde we pass Quarr Farm, which has been before described. Nothing of peculiar interest occurs until we reach Wotton Bridge: on the summit of the steep descent is Kite Hill, the seat of Mrs. Popham. The village, with its whitened cottages, Fern Hill, standing on the summit of the opposite hill, with its park-like grounds reaching to the water's edge,-the beautiful sheet of water, extending to Firestone Copse, the rustic bridge, the mill, with the vessels discharging or loading at its quay, together with its creek, and its finelywooded banks, fail not to leave a strong impression of its beauty on the mind of the beholder. To see this lovely spot to advantage, it should be viewed at high water.

A passage-boat goes from Wotton Bridge to Portsmouth, and returns daily; it leaves at nine o'clock in the morning, and returns at four in the afternoon.

Proceeding up the hill, we pass a neat Wesleyan chapel. At the summit of the hill, on the right, is the residence of the Rev. R. Walton White, the incumbent of the parish, and a magistrate for the island. Turning to the right, a road leads to the church, and King's Quay. The church stands a short distance from the village, and is built on the site of the old church, which was destroyed by fire; it contains nothing remarkable. It is a chapelry to Whippingham, and pays ten shillings annually, as an acknowledgment of its dependence. The manor farm is a modern building, near the church.

Pursuing the road to Newport, on the left is Fern Hill, the residence of S. Saunders, Esq. This is an elegant but singularly looking mansion; its lofty tower, while it adds to the importance of the edifice, commands, from its elevated situation, the most extensive and charming views of the surrounding scenery. The grounds are laid out with much judgment, and contain shrubs and trees of very fine growth. On Wotton Common, about two miles and a half from Newport, stands a small but picturesque cottage, the residence of Mr. Brannon, a self-taught artist of considerable merit, and the talented publisher of a work called the Vectis

Scenery, depicting in a very spirited manner the prominent beauties of the island. The views may be purchased separately, or bound up in a handsome volume, with letter-press descriptions.

A turn to the right leads to Whippingham, and East Cowes; while one in the opposite direction leads to Arreton. Ascending the hill to Staplers, one of the finest views in the island opens around. To the West, the lofty chalky cliffs of Freshwater bound the view; in the valley, Newport presents itself; beyond which stands Carisbrooke Castle, and the village, with its church, on the rising ground; the Barracks, the House of Industry, Newtown Creek, East and West Cowes, the New Forest, Calshot Castle, the Southampton Water, East Cowes' Castle, the roads, with the vessels at anchor,-all form interesting points on which to rest the attention. But the most pleasing object perhaps is the bird's-eye view afforded of the whole course of the Medina river, from Newport to the sea, with the vessels passing up and down the river. To the East, Portsdown Hill, Portsmouth, and Spithead, with Binstead and Quarr woods, Fern Hill, the interior of the island, St. George's Down and St. Catherine's Hill to the South, present a scene of indescribable beauty. Descending the hill to Newport, we pass Belcroft, the residence of William Cooke, Esq. A little below it is a spacious lace factory, the property of Messrs. Nunn. At the bottom of the hill, a turn to the right leads to East Cowes: pursuing our way through the turnpike, we enter Newport.

CHAP. IV.

EAST AND WEST COWES.

East and West Cowes are beautifully situated on the East and West sides of the entrance of the Medina River. Cowes is the port of the island, and all vessels bound to Newport, Ryde, Yarmouth, or any other part of the island, must enter their cargoes, and also clear out, when departing, at the custom-house, which is at East Cowes.

WEST COWES.

The appearance of this delightful town from the water is very imposing; from the roadstead it is seen to the greatest advantage; and as the vessel advances up the harbour the favourable impression is confirmed, by the view of West Cowes' Castle, that fashionable promenade the Marine Parade, with the Royal Yacht Club-House, the river flowing up to Newport, and East Cowes on the opposite shore, where, rising in majestic grandeur, over trees of rich foliage and noble growth, appears East Cowes' Castle, the seat of John Nash, Esq. with its banner waving in the wind from the The streets of Cowes are well paved, but rather narrow; those leading from the High Street are steep, but contain excellent and well-built houses, possessing commanding and delightful views of the coast of Hampshire, with the New Forest, Calshot Castle,

Southampton Water, Stokes Bay, Portsmouth and Spithead in the distance. The constant arrival and departure of vessels, give the town all the bustle and appearance of a sea-port town, and considerable business is transacted here. As a proof of its importance in a maritime point of view, it is selected as the port of rendezvous, where vessels of every denomination, and of every flag, call for orders as to their ultimate port of destination. Upwards of three hundred sail of vessels arrive here annually for instructions. If proper attention were paid to the harbour, by the conservators, who are the corporation of Newport, in taking the necessary precautions to prevent the accumulation of mud, it would be one of the finest harbours in the kingdom. Lord Yarborough is the Vice Admiral of the Isle of Wight, and Thomas Hastings, Esq. of Cowes, and William Hearn, Esq. of Newport, Deputy Vice Admirals. Mr. Thomas Thorold is Harbour Master Vessels driven in by stress of weather anchor here in the most perfect security; while those which have been damaged, from the great contention of sea and skies in the Channel, can readily obtain the necessary repairs to enable them to prosecute their voyage, as there are two dock-yards, Messrs. White and Co. at West, and Messrs. Joseph White and Co. at East Cowes. Several of the finest vessels belonging to members of the Yacht Club have been built here; and during the war, several frigates have been launched. With the bustle attendant on commercial pursuits, Cowes may justly lay claim to be considered one of the most interesting and beautiful watering places in England, both with reference to the facility of sea-bathing, the beauty of situation, and the attractive nature of the delightful scenery by which it is on all sides surrounded. The shops are numerous, and many of them not inferior to any provincial establishments of a similar nature in the kingdom. The population, including Northwood, is 4491.

THE MARINE PARADE

is the fashionable promenade, and from its situation commands the entrance of the harbour and the road-stead, which is rarely without vessels of some description, and in the summer time crowded with vessels belonging to the Yacht Club. Passing the castle, the walk extends along the beach towards Egypt, with a charming view of the Solent, Beaulieu River, Eaglehurst, Calshot Castle, &c.

THE CASTLE

stands at the Northern extremity of the Marine Parade, and possesses nothing to interest the antiquarian or historian. It was built by Henry VIII., in 1539, about which period a number of fortresses were erected along the Southern shore of England, for the better defence of the kingdom against any attempt at invasion. A semi-circular battery faces the sea, and commands the entrance of the harbour, mounting eleven guns, nine pounders. At the rear of the battery stands the Castle, which, from recent alterations, has assumed the appearance of an extensive mansion. The gallant Marquess

of Anglesea is the present governor of the castle, and resides there when on the island.

The following was the establishment, and salaries paid to different officers of West Cowes' Castle, in the Isle of Wight, in the reign of Henry VIII.; it is extracted from a list of the King's Officers of the Island, with their fees, &c.

Captain - - 1s. 0d. per diem.

2 Soldiers - - 0 6

1 Porter - - 0 8

6 Gunners - - 6 6

ROYAL YACHT CLUB-HOUSE.

This rendezvous for the Members of the Royal Yacht Club is situated on the Marine Parade, in the immediate vicinity of the Castle, and is admirably adapted for the comfort of the members. The club was established in the year 1812, since which time its members have very considerably increased. The object is highly commendable, as it affords many of our aristocracy, and wealthy individuals, an opportunity of encouraging nautical skill among their crews; and the ingenuity of the ship-builder is exercised, to produce the best models for sailing and accommodation*.

A correct List of the Members of the Royal Yacht Club will be found in the Appendix.

REGATTA.

This display of nautical skill and superior seamanship among the Members of the Yacht Club, takes place annually about August, when cups, given by His Majesty and from the funds of the club, are sailed for by the Members. The inhabitants of Cowes, benefiting materially from the port being the rendezvous of the club. have liberally contributed a town cup, as one of the prizes; a tribute of respect and gratitude that reflects the highest credit on this spirited town. A grand display of fire-works takes place in the evening, afloat and also in front of the Club-House; and most of the Yachts are brilliantly illuminated. A ball, at the Assembly Rooms, East Cowes, completes the attractions of the Regatta. The different matches occupy three or four days. The Pilot vessels are also inspected, a class of vessels which cannot be surpassed. There are forty-five pilot vessels, and one hundred and four licensed pilots. The roadstead and harbour are literally crowned with craft of various descriptions, from the noble rigged frigate yacht to the humble skiff, including perhaps three or four hundred vessels of various sizes and many nations; while the surrounding shores are crowded by visitors from all parts of the island, and many from the interior of England, who cannot fail being delighted by the grandeur, the novelty, and beauty of the magnificent and inspiring scene around them. The course sailed is, to the Westward, round a vessel moored off Gurnet Bay, thence through Cowes roads to the Eastward, round the Nab Light (a floating light to the Eastward of St. Helens), and back to the starting point off Cowes.

THE MARKET HOUSE

is situated on Feather's Hill, in the vicinity of the High Street, and was erected in 1816, in which year an Act of Parliament was obtained for that purpose, as well as for otherwise improving the town. The market-day is Saturday, but the market is open daily; and being well supplied with excellent meat, fish, vegetables, and fruit, is a great accommodation both to the visitors and inhabitants. It is a plain unpretending building, accommodation and convenience having been judiciously consulted in preference to show and ornament.

THE TOWN HALL

stands over the Market House, and the Commissioners for improving the town meet here weekly to transact their public business. As is the case with Ryde, all business requiring the interference of the magistrates, is transacted at Newport. It may perhaps be deemed worthy of remark, that there is no magistrate residing in or near Cowes. The constables are appointed annually, in the month of September, at a Court Leet, held at Carisbrooke.

COWES CHAPEL.

This building, which is a chapel of ease to the church of Northwood, in which parish the town is situated, was erected in 1653, and though consecrated by George, Lord Bishop of Winchester, in 1662, is not dedicated, like other churches, to any particular saint. This singular circumstance is accounted for, by its consecration taking place during the Commonwealth, when puritanism and hypocrisy walked at large through the land; and, by austerity and assumed sanctity, prepared the way for the luxury and revelry which marked the reign of the second Charles. The ground was given by Mr. Richard Stephens, who endowed the chapel, in 1667, with £.5 per annum. Eight years after, Morley, then Lord Bishop of Winchester, added an endowment of £.20, on condition that the inhabitants should make up a salary to the minister of £.40 per annum, in default of which the endowment should be forfeited for ever. The income has since received the addition of Queen Anne's bounty. The late George Ward, Esq., lord of the manor, at an expense of nearly £.3000, considerably enlarged and improved the chapel in 1811, and erected a handsome mausoleum tower at the West end. which, for the better accommodation of the inhabitants, he furnished with a clock and bell, thus combining ornament with utility. The cope stone was fixed on the 12th of August, 1815, by Brother Thomas Thorold, Worshipful Master of the West Medina Lodge, No. 48, assisted by the brethren of all the lodges in the Isle of Wight; the interesting ceremony was performed in an impressive manner, amid an immense assemblage of spectators from all parts of the surrounding country. John Nash, Esq. was the architect. The

regard to the comfort and accommodation of the congregation. There is a gallery round three sides of the building; at the West end is a good organ. A monument to the memory of Mrs. Ward is worth inspection, and from its situation produces an imposing effect. Divine service is performed here every Sunday at halfpast ten, at three, and half-past six. The Rev. Mr. Atkinson is the present curate.

From the elevated situation of the chapel, its majestic lower forms an attractive feature, viewed in any direction, either from the water, the opposite coast of Hampshire, or many of the more distant parts of the island.

NEW CHAPEL.

'Passing to the Westward, leaving the castle to the right, is a new episcopal chapel, which has been erected this year, by the liberality of an individual, Mrs. Godwin, in order to afford that accommodation which the increased and increasing number of residents demands. The elevation is distinguished more by neatness than ornament, and, with its well-proportioned tower, forms an additional beautiful object in the delightful scenery of this place.

THE INDEPENDENT CHAPEL

is situated on Sun Hill. It is a neat building, and fitted up with that simplicity which is so characteristic of their places of worship. The worthy and much respected Rev. Mr. Mann is the present minister.

THE WESLEYAN CHAPEL.

The elevation of this chapel is an ornament to Birmingham Row: the interior is fitted up in a neat manner. The precipitate descent to the river has been rendered available by the architect, in forming a school-room, both for boys and girls, underneath the chapel. The entrance to the school is down a flight of steps, which conduct to the back of the building, where the doors of the school-room open to a small lawn, communicating with the Medina.

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPEL

is situated in Carvel Lane, and from the commanding site of the building, and its handsome elevation, is an important feature in the landscape, whether viewed from the water, or the opposite side of the river. It is fitted up in a superior manner, with that regard to splendour and effect by which that religion is distinguished. There is an excellent organ. This chapel is a great accommodation to the visitors and residents who profess the creed of the church of Rome, as also to vast numbers of foreigners, who at times are detained by adverse winds in the Roads; and, but for this chapel, would be deprived of the means of worshiping the common Father of all, according to the tenets of that church to which they belong. The officiating priest is the Rev. Mr. Rathbone, who is highly respected and esteemed by his congregation.

BATHS.

These are situated at Egypt, a short distance from the castle, and afford every facility to those who require hot or cold baths. They are ably conducted, and the strictest attention is paid to the comforts of invalids.

BATHING MACHINES

are also in the vicinity of the Baths. Although the declivity of the beach is very considerable, such is the admirable arrangement of the machines, that the most timid may enjoy the advantage of Sea Bathing in the greatest security. The pleasure to those in good health is considerably heightened by the interest and beauty of the surrounding scenery; while the valetudinarian may renovate his health in the waters of the Solent, and during the walk or drive to and from the shore, inhale the invigorating breeze.

LIBRARIES AND READING ROOMS.

Mr. Moir's Library and Reading Rooms, in the High Street, is an establishment admirably conducted in all its branches; and, by his attention and assiduity, he secures a large portion of the public patronage. Mr. Pinhorn has also a similar establishment. There is likewise a Reading Room in the vicinity of the Baths at Egypt.

POST OFFICE.

The Post Office is situated in the High Street. The Post-master is Mr. Roach. The letters from the West

of England and London arrive, viâ Southampton, about half-past nine every morning, and the mails are dispatched every afternoon, during the summer months, at five o'clock, and at four in the winter; in the summer, the mail is conveyed by the steamers; during the winter, in a sailing vessel. Letters are delivered in Cowes about forty minutes after the arrival of the mail.

HOTELS, INNS, &c.

The principal hotels are the Marine Hotel, kept by Mr. Thomas Helmore, on the Marine Parade. Fountain, James Webb, in the High Street, has a commodious quay in the rear, which enables the Steam Packets to come alongside at all states of the tide, and is a great convenience to the passengers, as they can land without being compelled to enter boats. The coaches for Newport wait the arrival of the packets, and also start from this hotel. The Vine Hotel is a comfortable house: and to those who wish to avoid the hurry, bustle, and confusion, attendant on the arrival and departure of the steam packets and coaches, offers every convenience and comfort which the spirited proprietor, Mr. Thomas Hale, can procure for their accommodation. This hotel is also situated in the High Street, and nearly adjoining the Fountain. It is sufficiently near to enable the company to avail themselves at the latest moment of the departure of the packets and coaches. It possesses the advantage of a landing slip, where visitors can land with the greatest

facility at all states of the tide*. There are also several taverns and inns, which are well conducted, and afford extensive and comfortable accommodation to the humbler, but not less important classes of society.

THE NATIONAL SCHOOL.

This institution originated in the benevolence of the Duke and Princess Sophia of Gloucester, and was established in the year 1812, for the education of poor boys and girls.

FAIR.

Cowes Fair is held on the Thursday in Whitsun-week, and partakes of the character of the other fairs in the island.

COACHES.

There is a coach, for Newport, which leaves the Fountain Hotel every morning at half-past ten o'clock, immediately on the arrival of the Steam Packet from Southampton; and also at half-past four in the afternoon.

CARRIERS.

There are two carriers, daily, to and from Newport.

 The West Medina Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons meet regularly in their Lodge Room at this Hotel, on the Wednesday nearest the full moon in each month.

STEAM PACKETS.

The Steam communication of Cowes is of the same extensive nature as at the neighbouring town of Ryde. Steam Packets were first introduced between this port and Southampton in the year 1822. The *Medina*, Captain James Knight, *George the Fourth*, Captain David Corke; and the *Malmesbury*, Captain J. H. Knight, jun. leave Cowes alternately, as under:—

For Southampton, at ten o'clock in the morning, and half-past four in the afternoon.

For Ryde and Portsmouth, also at the same hours. They arrive from Southampton about half-past nine in the morning, and about four o'clock in the afternoon; and also arrive from Ryde and Portsmouth at the same hours.

Best Cabin. Steerage.

Fare.—From Cowes to Southampton 3s. 0d. 1s. 6d.

Ryde and Portsmouth . . . } 2s. 6d. 1s. 6d.

The passengers have to pay two-pence each for boatage at Southampton; and also at Portsmouth and at Ryde, three-pence each, for landing, or embarking. The *Emerald* leaves the Vine Hotel, Cowes, for Southampton, every day at half-past three o'clock in the afternoon; and for Ryde at twelve o'clock at noon: she arrives at Cowes from Southampton at twelve o'clock at noon, and from Ryde at half-past three o'clock.

Best Cabin. Forward.

Fare.—From Cowes to Ryde 2s. 0d. 1s. 0d. Southampton 2s. 0d. 1s. 0d.

For Plymouth, the *Brunsmick*, Captain Thomas Russell, calls off Cowes, on her way from Portsmouth, about seven o'clock on the evenings of Tuesday and Friday;

and on her return from Plymouth, every Tuesday and Friday morning, about eight o'clock. This packet calls at Torquay, going and returning. The Sir Francis Drake steamer, leaves Plymouth for Falmouth, on Wednesdays and Saturdays, at one P.M.

Best Cabin.

Fare.—From Cowes to Plymouth 11. 5s.

The London and Dublin steamers, the Shannon, Captain J. Hutchins; the Thames, Captain W. Donnan; and the City of Londonderry, Captain Alexander Keay, are fine packets, of between five and six hundred tons burthen, and sail alternately from London every Sunday, calling off Cowes on Monday, returning from Dublin on the Wednesday, and call at Cowes every Saturday morning. These packets also call at Plymouth and Falmouth, going and returning. The fares (including the steward's fee) are as under:—

First Cabin. Second Cabin. Deck. ₽. s. ₽. 8. d From Cowes to London 1 6 0 17 0 5s. Falmouth 1 12 · 6 1 3 75. Plymouth 1 3 6 0 17 5s. Dublin 5 6 1 6 10s. The ordinary time of passage from-

From Dublin there are Steam Packets regularly to Cork, Belfast, Glasgow, Liverpool, Bristol, &c.

For information respecting the Steam Packets for Havre de Grace, and Guernsey and Jersey, see page 42.

The Glasgow steamer, from Lymington, calling at

Yarmouth, arrives every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at half-past ten o'clock, in her way to Ryde and Portsmouth, and returns the same afternoon at three o'clock.

_	Best Cabin.	Forward.
Fare.—From Cowes to Yarmouth	2s. 0d.	1s. 0d.
Cowes to Lymington	2s. 6d.	1s. 6d.

HARBOUR.

From its finely-sheltered situation, the harbour is perfectly safe. The anchorage is excellent in the roadstead, and in the strongest gales of wind, vessels seldom or ever drag their anchors, or break from their moorings. The island, breaking the fury of the South-West gales, renders them entirely harmless, and vessels of any burthen can ride here in the most perfect security. The harbour and roads are generally crowded with vessels of all sizes, and different nations, many of them calling here for orders. In the summer time the river is particularly gay, from the number of Yachts cruising about; in the winter, most of them are laid up in the harbour. To facilitate the landing and shipping of merchandise, many of the commercial establishments in the High Street possess wharfs and warehouses, which, running out into the river, enable vessels to discharge alongside.

FERRY.

The communication between West and East Cowes is by means of a Ferry across the river, for which pas-

sengers are charged a halfpenny each. Horses and carriages are conveyed in a boat, constructed for that purpose.

EAST COWES,

is situated on the East bank of the Medina river, opposite West Cowes, and is in the parish of Whippingham. Between a fine row of trees, skirting the water, there is a short but pleasant promenade. At the entrance of the river formerly stood a castle, distant about a mile from that at West Cowes; it has long since shared the fate of many other fortresses, and been demolished. In Camden's time, both castles were in a ruinous condition; they are thus described by Leland, in his Itinerary: "Ther be two new Castelles sette up and furnished at "the mouth of Newporte; that is the only Haven in "Wighte to be spoken of.

"That that is sette up on Este syde of the haven, is "caullid the Est Cow, and that that is sette up at the "Weste syde, is caullid the West Cow, and is the bigger castelle of the 2. The trajectus, betwixt these 2 cas-"telles, is a good myle."

Leland made some Latin verses on these castles, which are cited by Camden, and thus translated by Bishop Gibson:—

[&]quot;The two great Cows, that in loud thunder roar,

[&]quot;This on the Eastern, that the Western shore;

[&]quot;Where Newport enters stately Wight."

THE CUSTOM HOUSE

is situated near the Ferry; it is a convenient building, but can make no pretensions to architectural beauty. Thomas Hastings, Esq. is the Collector.

HOTEL.

The East Medina Hotel is conducted by Mr. John Cooke, and affords every accommodation to visitors, who may prefer the quiet and retirement of East Cowes, to the bustle and gaiety of the opposite shore.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS.

The Assembly Rooms are attached to the Hotel, and balls are occasionally held here, as West Cowes has no rooms of public resort, for assemblies, &c.

BATHS.

In the immediate vicinity of the Hotel, are the Baths, which have been recently erected, and have a handsome elevation, while the interior has every convenience which similar establishments possess.

THE BATHING MACHINES

are situated on the beach, and enable the bathers to enjoy that luxury at all states of the tide.

THE CHURCH.

The want of a church of the established religion having been long felt by the inhabitants, John Nash,

Esq. with great liberality presented them with a piece of ground, where, on the 6th day of September, 1831, the Princess Victoria, assisted by her royal mother, the Duchess of Kent, laid the foundation stone, amid the acclamations of a numerous and fashionable assemblage. The building will be shortly ready for divine service.

INDEPENDENT CHAPEL.

This chapel has been recently erected. It is a plain building; and the interior is neatly fitted up.

Walks.

IN THE VICINITY OF EAST AND WEST COWES.

There are many beautiful walks in the neighbourhood, and those who are fond of aquatic excursions, may indulge freely in them, as both here and at West Cowes, boats of a superior description can be readily hired; the boatmen are civil and attentive, and possessed of much nautical skill.

A pleasant walk along the shore, passing the castle, conducts to Egypt, which possesses several houses of elegant elevations, with lawns and shrubberies in front, and commanding fine views of the Solent, the New Forest, and the entrance of Beaulieu; the constant passing of vessels of various sizes also adds materially to the interest of the scene.

West Cliff, the seat of Sir Thomas Tancred, Bart. occupies the most Northern part of the island. Following the shore, we reach Gurnet Bay, where Charles II. landed, in 1671, when he visited Admiral Sir Richard

Holmes, Governor of the island. From hence, a pleasant walk leads to Rue Street; the view of the bays, creeks, and promontories of the island, with the opposite shore, is particularly interesting, and is bounded, to the West, by the hills of Dorsetshire, and the Isle of Purbeck. Returning to Cowes, the visitor passes Vale Cottage, the residence of Captain Farrington. Farther on is Moor House, the seat of Mrs. Ward.

On the top of the hill, overlooking the town of Cowes, is Northwood Park, a beautiful domain, ornamented with some fine timber, the seat of G. H. Ward, Esq. The situation commands a fine view of the water, and also of the neighbouring coast. The walk from Cowes to

NORTHWOOD

is replete with beauties. On the right of the road stands West Hill, a cottage erected in the picturesque style peculiar to Switzerland, and has a pleasant lawn and shrubbery in front, exhibiting a romantic appearance. The Church, which is the parish church of Cowes, has nothing particular in it worthy of note. Near the Church there was formerly a religious house, consisting of Brothers and Sisters of the fraternity of St. John the Baptist, as appears from a conveyance, in Latin, still extant, of a tenement and two or three strips of land, to the stewards of that fraternity, by John Wynnyatt. The deed is dated 1512, in the fourth year of Henry VIII., wherein the fraternity is said to have been lately established: hence it could have subsisted but a very short time, all these establishments

being suppressed in that reign. A court leet is held annually, at the Manor House, where constables for Cowes are appointed. The view of the Medina river, meandering through the valley, with the hills at the back of the Island, and the rich foliage of the trees on the Eastern side of the river, give a pleasing variety to the scenery. Here are two mills erected, on different sides of the river, named Botany Bay and Port Jackson; which are capable of grinding forty loads of corn weekly. They were built by an industrious and enterprising individual, named Porter, originally a pie-man: his resources failing, by the stoppage of a Newport Bank, he was again subjected to poverty, and soon after died. Besides these speculations, he entered into other useful, and apparently profitable undertakings.

The neighbourhood of East Cowes possesses considerable attraction to the lovers of rural walks. The country around is decked with several beautiful villas and cottages, standing on lawns, surrounded with a profusion of the choicest shrubs.

East Cowes Castle is the property and residence of John Nash, Esq. It is an elegant specimen of the ancient fortress, and fitted up in the interior with every attention to comfort and accommodation. The grounds are judiciously laid out, and contain trees of great beauty. The conservatory demands a close inspection; it is of considerable extent, and contains a large collection of the finest exotics. The appearance of this noble structure, from any point of view, is a beautiful object in the landscape.

A little to the Eastward, stands Norris Castle, which forms a striking contrast, in its exterior, to East Cowes Castle. Disdaining the aid of ornament, the late Lord Henry Seymour erected this building in the plain but solid style of our Norman ancestors. Mr. Wyatt was the architect. The interior is commodious, and admirably adapted to the comfort and convenience of its inhabitants. Its walls are nearly over-run with ivy, which gives it an appearance of age. Its towers render it a striking and conspicuous object in all directions. stables are on a large scale, and erected in a style to correspond with the castle. The grounds extend to the water's edge, and are open to the public. The views from this and East Cowes Castle are extensive, beautiful, and diversified. Both stand in commanding situations, near the shore of one of the most lovely islands in the world. During the summer of 1831, Norris Castle was the residence of Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, and the Princess Victoria.

From hence to the entrance of the pretty little inlet of King's Key, is about two miles. This place was the scene of King John's temporary retirement, after withdrawing from the contest with the Barons, who obtained from that monarch the great charter of British liberty. He resided here three months, expecting succours from France, and a dispensation from the Pope, absolving him from his engagements.

Returning towards East Cowes, we pass Barton Farm, the property of —— Blachford, Esq. A Monastery, or Oratory of Friars of the order of St. Augustin, was

founded here in 1282, in the eleventh year of the reign of Edward I., by John de Insulâ, Rector of Shafleet, and Thomas de Winton, Rector of Godshill: it was dedicated to the Holy Trinity, and under the patronage of the Bishop of Winchester. endowments consisted of the manor of Whippingham, with the lands of the manor of Barton, and some estates at Chale. The foundation consisted of several chaplains, having for their chief an arch-presbyter. In the year 1439, being the eighteenth of Henry VI., and previous to the dissolution of the religious houses, the estate was given, by the Order, to St. Mary's College, at Winchester. Few vestiges of the Oratory can now be traced. The present structure is beautifully situated, and retains all the characteristics of buildings erected in the time of Elizabeth.

Pursuing the route, we come to Osborne, a fine old mansion, the seat of C. Lambert, Esq. This seat may be ranked as having one of the best situations in the island. It is on a spacious lawn, which leads to the sea. The views are extensive, and possess all the interest of those of the other mansions in the neighbourhood. It was in the occupation of Eustace Mann, Esq. during the civil wars between Charles I. and his Parliament. A copse on the estate is called the Money Coppice, from the traditional circumstance of Mann having buried some valuables there, which he could not find again. A short walk across the fields, from which West Cowes is seen to great advantage, brings us to East Cowes.

DRIVE FROM WEST COWES TO NEWPORT.

Leaving Cowes, the road commands a fine view of the Medina, and the surrounding scenery; Northwood, with its church, lies to the left, near the river. As the traveller proceeds, the scenery changes with an endless variety; and passing the Albany Barracks* on the right, and the House of Industry † on the left, Newport presents itself in the valley.

DRIVE FROM EAST COWES TO NEWPORT.

Proceeding up the hill, the villas and mansions already mentioned attract the attention; passing East Cowes Castle, and Osborne, we reach the little village of

WHIPPINGHAM.

The church is a small but neat building, and with its spire presents an agreeable feature in the landscape; it is situated to the right of the road, near the Medina; it was one of the six churches given by William Fitz-Osborne to the Abbey of Lyra, in Normandy. A little distance from hence is Padmore, the seat of C. Smith, Esq. As we approach Newport, on the right, is Fairlee, with a villa, the residence of J. White, Esq. and the cottage of Mr. Albin, charmingly placed on the banks of the river, and commanding some very beautiful views; proceeding onwards, we pass Coppin's Bridge, and enter Newport.

† See page 105.

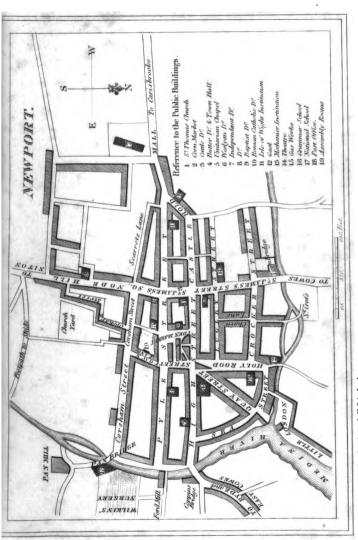
[•] See page 104.

CHAP. V.

NEWPORT.

Newport, the capital, is nearly in the centre of the island, and is eighty-six miles from London. The situation is highly advantageous for commerce, as the Medina river is navigable to the town for small craft. This stream, which takes its rise at St. Catherine's Hill, in the South of the island, forms a natural division of the island into East and West Medine, and is here joined by another small stream, which rises about three miles to the West of the town, in a place called Gaynor's Grove. At the confluence of these streams, a convenient quay and landing slip has been erected, and several warehouses extend to the water's edge.

From its central situation, it is the great resort of the farmers, and much business is transacted here weekly, in corn and other agricultural produce; while the villages in the interior and back of the island draw from it all their supplies. The town is built with much regularity, and consists principally of five parallel streets, intersected by others at right angles. The streets are wide, and well paved, and the introduction of gas gives them a lively appearance in the evening. The shops are numerous, many of them elegantly fitted up, and abundantly





supplied with every thing that luxury can require: but while luxury has been consulted in the selection of the tradesman's stock, the more solid and indispensable comforts of life have not been overlooked; indeed, it may with justice be asserted, that the shops are equal to any in the kingdom, out of the metropolis, and its trade far greater than the stranger, glancing at the size of the place, could imagine.

Camden mentions Newport in the following manner:—
"Newport, the principall mercate toune of the whole
"isle, called in times past Medena, and Novus Burgus
"de Meden, that is, the New Burgh of Meden." The
town was not of much note prior to the reign of Henry
II*. On the decline of Newtown, it rapidly increased
in size and importance, but was not incorporated until
the first year of the reign of James I. The present
number of inhabitants is 4318.

There are two Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons in the town; the Albany, No. 249, who hold their meetings regularly on the third Monday in each month, and have a Chapter annexed, which meets every fourth Monday; and the Vectis Lodge, No. 578, which meets on the second Monday in each month: this Lodge has also a Chapter attached, but its meetings are uncertain. They assemble at the Town Hall.

• The first charter granted to the town was in 1184, by Richard de Redvers, or de Ripariis, Earl of Devon, and Lord of the Isle of Wight. Another charter was granted by Isabella de Fortibus, between 1260 and 1293. The market was first established about 1222.

SAINT THOMAS'S CHURCH.

The church for the populous town of Newport, is a chapel of ease to the beautifully-situated village of Carisbrooke, the vicar of which parish nominated the present curate; a privilege heretofore possessed by the inhabitants, who have recently manifested a determination to re-assert their former right. regretted, that a town so extensive as Newport, should possess only one place of worship of the established church. If those, who ought to have the welfare of the Church of England at heart, provided ample accommodation for the community, dissenting congregations would be less numerous. The Independent Chapel in this town being found inadequate to the wants of the congregation, another was erected. But the church, although too small, was not enlarged, neither was another built. The church has nothing in its exterior to recommend it to the notice of visitors; it is dedicated to St. Thomas à Becket, and was probably built about the year 1172, in the latter part of the reign of Henry II., during the period the saint attained his popularity. Having been repaired at various periods, it presents several varieties of architecture. square tower, at the West end, which contains a peal of six bells, and a clock. The interior consists of a body, with aisles, divided by arches, springing from massive Norman pillars. It has a gallery on three sides, with an excellent organ over the West entrance. A curiouslycarved oak screen divides the altar from the body of the church. The great object of curiosity is the exquisite

workmanship of the pulpit, which is of oak, and consists of fourteen emblematic figures, representing the liberal sciences and the cardinal virtues, disposed in panels, forming two rows. The sounding board is also beautifully carved, and corresponds with the pulpit. This curious relic of antiquity bears the date of 1636. There are no monuments of importance, except one in the south-east corner of the church, to the memory of Sir Edward Hersoy, Captain of the Isle of Wight, who died in the year 1582. Within its walls are the remains of the Princess Elizabeth, second daughter of Charles I., who died a prisoner at Carisbrooke Castle, about nineteen months after the execution of her father. The vault was discovered in 1793, near the altar; a stone, with the initials E. S., marked the spot. The coffin was of lead, with the inscription,

Elizabeth.

Second Daughter of the late King Charles, dece'd September 8th, MDCL.

Divine service commences at half-past ten o'clock in the morning, three in the afternoon, and six in the evening. The Rev. Henry Worsley is the present highly-respected minister. The sacred edifice stands in the Corn Market. There is no church-yard attached to the building, as the inhabitants formerly interred their dead at Carisbrooke; but the plague raging at Newport, in the reign of Elizabeth, the burial-ground at Carisbrooke was found too limited, and the inhabitants obtained the grant of a piece of ground to the South of the town, which since that period has been used as a cemetery.

THE CATHOLIC CHAPEL

is a large structure, possessing a good elevation, situated in Pyle Street. It was built by the late Mrs. Heneage, who left a sum of money for the purpose of endowing it. The interior is handsomely fitted up; and it possesses a very excellent organ. The Rev. Mr. Robson is at present the officiating minister.

THE BAPTIST CHAPEL.

Situated in Castle Hold, is the Baptist Chapel, a large building, very neatly fitted up in the interior, and having a gallery on three sides. The minister is the Rev. Mr. Davis.

THE WESLEYAN CHAPEL

stands nearly at the bottom of Pyle Street, and is a large building, possessing extensive accommodation, to which a gallery, round three sides of the interior, very considerably contributes. It has also the advantage of a good organ.

INDEPENDENT CHAPELS.

One is situated on Node Hill; the other in St. James's Street. The Rev. Mr. Bishop officiates at the former, and the Rev. Mr. Giles at the latter. They are both roomy structures, with extensive galleries on three sides.

THE UNITARIAN CHAPEL

is a handsome building, in the High Street. It has an organ, and a large gallery over the entrance, the interior is fitted up with much neatness. The Rev. Mr. Kell is the minister.

THE ISLE OF WIGHT INSTITUTION,

in St. James's Square, is a stone building, with a handsome elevation, and piazza. It was erected in 1810, by
subscription, at an expense of £.3000, and is one of the
most interesting, useful, and ornamental buildings in the
town. Members are admitted, by a payment of £.2 2s.
and an annual subscription of the same amount afterwards. Members have the privilege of introducing a
stranger. Non-residents, by a payment of £.1 5s. may
become subscribers for six months. The Institution
has a very good collection of books, to which liberal
contributions are continually being made. The daily
papers, magazines, reviews, and other periodical publications, are constantly on the table. There is a collection of natural and artificial curiosities in a room
adjoining the library.

THE MECHANICS' INSTITUTION

is situated in the Corn Market, and was established in the year 1827. It is supported with considerable spirit and liberality.

THE CORPORATION

consists of a Mayor, Recorder, eleven Aldermen, and twelve Burgesses. Very many Charters were granted by the Lords of the Island, and the Kings of England, under which the Corporation were styled, "Bailiffs and Burgesses;" King James I. granted a Charter to the Borough as "Mayor and Burgesses." Charles II., in the thirteenth year of his reign, granted them another charter, which superseded the former, and constituted the corporation as it now exists. Newport sent Members to Parliament in the 27th of Elizabeth; the precept is dated the 18th of October, 1584. The right of election was vested in the Corporation, consisting of twenty-three individuals. The number of electors is 425, according to the list of the revising barrister for 1832. The sitting members are John Heywood Hawkins, Esq., and William Henry Ord, Esq. The following are the present members of the Corporation:-

Percy Scott, Esq. Mayor and Alderman.
The Right Honourable Lord Yarborough, Recorder.
Thomas Sewell, Esq. Deputy Recorder, and Alderman.

ALDERMEN.

Sir Richard Bassett, Knight. William Mount, Esq. M.P. John Moore, Esq. James George, Esq. Rev. George Richards. Rev. Henry Worsley. Henry Blake, Esq. Charles Bassett Roe, Esq.

James Edwards, Esq.

• The greatest number of votes polled, during the last thirty years, was twenty-two, previous to the extension of the elective franchise, under the late Act for amending the Representation of the People.

BURGESSES.

Rev. Richard Walton White. George Denecke, Esq. Mr. Henry Rogers. Thomas James Blachford, Esq. James Bassett, Esq. Mr. Obadiah Silcock. Mr. Thomas Foster.
Mr. Edward Way, Jun.
Mr. George Mew.
William Hearn, Esq.
Mr. William Mortimer.
Mr. R. I. Jewell.

The Mayor and High Constables are annually sworn into office, before the Captain of the Isle of Wight, or his Steward, at St. Nicholas' Chapel, in the Castle of Carisbrooke, on Michaelmas Day. The Mayor is chosen from the Aldermen, of whom there are twelve; and the Aldermen are chosen, by the Mayor and Aldermen, from the chief Burgesses; and have extensive civil and criminal jurisdiction.

THE MARKET HOUSE

is situated in the High Street, near the centre of the town. The market days are Saturday and Wednesday, when the town is generally thronged by people from all parts of the island, either as buyers or sellers. It is admirably supplied with excellent provisions of every description, butcher's meat, fish, butter, poultry, vegetables, &c., and possesses a pump of excellent water. The Cattle Market is situated in St. James's Square, and is held on Wednesdays. The Corn Market is held, in the Corn Market, on Saturdays.

THE TOWN HALL

stands over the Market House, and they form, together, an imposing appearance. It is a structure of the Ionic order, built from a plan presented to the Corporation by J. Nash, Esq. A colonnade of Ionic pillars, supported by arches, gives the building a noble elevation to the West; whilst the South front, facing High Street, has an elegant facade of the same order. It is erected on the site of the old market house, several of the adjoining houses having been purchased, and pulled down, in order to render the structure more commodious. It cost the Corporation about £.10,000. The foundation stone was laid on the 20th day of March, 1814, and the building was completed in March 1816. The council chamber is a fine room, 28 feet by 30, communicating with the magistrates' room, which is about 70 feet by 30. The platform on which the Magistrates sit, together with the Jury and Witness' boxes, &c., are fixed to the floor by screws, which can all be removed; the partition between the two rooms is also moveable, converting the apartments into one elegant room, 48 feet by 30, and 22 feet high. There are also rooms belonging to the Town Clerk, Petty Jury, &c. The inhabitants of Newport presented the Corporation with a fine portrait of the late Sir Leonard-Thomas-Worsley Holmes, Bart., which ornaments the Hall just described. The Magistrates of the island assemble here every Saturday, in Petty Sessions. The Quarter Sessions for the Borough take place before the Recorder, or his Deputy; he has the power to award the punishment of transportation for life, and also to inflict any less degree of punishment. A singular court, called Curia Militum, or Knight's Court, is held here every third Monday, unless that day happens to be a holiday. It is of feudal origin, and is supposed to have been instituted by William Fitz-Osborne, lord of the island, in the reign of William the Conqueror. The power is vested in those who hold a Knight's fee from the lord of the island; and these judges, without appealing to the opinions of a jury, give judgment, as in courts of equity. The captain's steward, or his deputy, presides; and its jurisdiction extends through the whole island, with the exception of the borough of Newport, over all actions of debt and trespass, under the value of forty shillings.

In the year 1806, the inhabitants (by voluntary subscription) obtained an Act of Parliament for the recovery of small debts to the amount of five pounds, contracted in the island.

THE POST OFFICE

is situated at the corner of Pyle Street and St. James's Square. The mails from London, and the West of England, arrive about half-past ten in the morning, and letters are in course of delivery about an hour afterwards. The mails are dispatched at four o'clock in the summer months, and at half-past two o'clock in the afternoon during the winter months. The Postmaster is Mr. Francis Pittis.



BANKS.

The Bankers are Sir Richard Bassett, Knt. Roe, and Blachford, in St. James's Square, who draw on Sir Richard Carr Glyn, Bart. Hallifax, Mills, and Co. Bankers, London;—and Messrs. Joseph and James Kirkpatrick and Co. High Street, who draw on Messrs. Rogers, Towgood, Olding, and Co. Messrs. Kirkpatrick have also a branch bank at Ryde.

THE THEATRE

is a small building, but neatly fitted up, situated in Holyrood Street, and excellently adapted for theatrical performances. It was for some years under the management of Mr. Penson. Many established favourites of the London boards were members of Mr. Penson's company; among others that may be enumerated are Mrs. Bartley, Mr. Power, of Covent Garden, and Miss Mordaunt, now Mrs. Nesbitt. The Theatre generally opens the latter end of September, or the beginning of October, and remains open until Christmas. The prices of admission are, Boxes, 3s.; Pit, 2s.; and Gallery, 1s. The establishment is at present conducted by Mr. Shalders, for many years an established favourite of the Southampton and Portsmouth Theatres. The scenery, dresses, and decorations, are appropriate and good, and the company generally possessed of much ability.

HOTELS, INNS, &c.

The Bugle Hotel is in the High Street, kept by Mr. Henry Mew, and is a very excellent house, possessing every requisite accommodation. The coaches for Cowes and Ryde start from hence twice every The Green Dragon Hotel is in Pyle Street, a short distance from the High Street, of which it commands a view. To those visitors who prefer quiet and retirement, with every attention to their comforts, it presents considerable advantages, under the able direction of Mr. Robert Squire. The Star, in St. James's Street, kept by Mr. William Newnham, is a comfortable establishment. There are also a number of houses affording excellent accommodation, on a more limited scale; amongst others, the Wheatsheaf, by Mr. Read, in the Corn Market. Most of the Inns have Cars and Gigs for hire.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS.

These are attached to the Green Dragon Hotel: balls, concerts, and public dinners are occasionally held here. It is a well-proportioned room, admirably adapted for such purposes.

COACHES.

The coach for Cowes leaves at eight o'clock in the morning, and three in the afternoon, returning from

Cowes at twelve o'clock, and six in the afternoon. The coach for Ryde leaves a quarter before eight in the morning, and at three o'clock in the afternoon. The former reaches Ryde in time for the Portsmouth Packet, thus enabling passengers to reach London the same evening. The coaches from Ryde arrive about one o'clock in the day, and eight in the evening during the summer months; the latter coach is for the accommodation of passengers from London, who are desirous of arriving at Newport in one day; during the winter, the coach arrives about five o'clock.

GAOL.

The Gaol is situated at the bottom of Holyrood Street; it is a small brick building, but large enough for all the purposes required.

GAS WORKS.

In the year 1821, several spirited individuals, desirous of extending the advantages of this brilliant light to the town of Newport, obtained an Act of Parliament, and procured the requisite funds, in shares of $\pounds.50$ each. The works are near Pan Bridge, and the gas produced may vie in brilliancy with any in England.

GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

This building stands in St. James's Street, and was erected by the Corporation, assisted by public subscription, in the year 1619, during the reign of James I. The school-room is fifty feet long, and memorable as having

been the spot where the Parliamentary Commissioners held their last conference with Charles I. The building possesses every accommodation for the master, and is considered the oldest building in Newport, except the church. The Rev. George Richards, M.A. chaplain to the House of Industry, is the present able and respected master. It is endowed with about thirty-four acres of land, adjoining the forest of Parkhurst, granted by the Corporation.

THE NATIONAL SCHOOL.

The National School is situated in Bedford Row, and was erected in 1816; it is supported by voluntary contributions, and affords instruction to a number of poor boys and girls.

THE BLUE SCHOOL

is in Lugley Street, for the education of girls, and is supported by endowments and contributions. The number of children on the establishment is twenty. It was first established in 1761.

SEMINARIES.

There are several establishments for the rising generation, of both sexes, in the town; among those having the greatest reputation, for young gentlemen, are Mr. Clark's, in the Corn Market; Mr. Andrew's, High Street; the Rev. Mr. Kell's (the Unitarian minister), Quay Street; and Mr. Martin's, Coppin's Bridge. For young ladies, may be enumerated Miss Nicholson's,

High Street; Miss Crooke's, High Street; and Miss Nichols', Holyrood Street. There are also several able professors of Music, Dancing, Drawing, French, and other accomplishments.

FAIR.

The Fair is held annually, at Whitsuntide, in the High Street and neighbourhood, and continues three days; like other fairs in various parts of the country, it has gradually departed from its character of a market, and assumed that of a pleasure fair. What the Fair may have lost in importance as a mart, perhaps it has more than gained, by the increase of happiness and pleasure it affords to the country round; for the neighbourhood look forward to it for relaxation from the toils of the year, and as the period of innocent recreation.

- "We know that life's pleasures are mix'd with alloy,
- "But if virtue approve them, 'tis wise to enjoy."

During the continuance of this Fair no writ can be executed in Newport, except the writs issued from the Pie Poudre Court of the Borough.

THE BARGAIN SATURDAYS

are held on the three Saturdays nearest Michaelmas, for the bargaining or hiring servants for the ensuing year; the servant girls and the male servants assemble at different parts of the town, which on these occasions presents a scene of bustle and activity. The servants are hired for the year. It appears to be similar to the statute fair in other parts of England.

ARCHERY.

The fashionable and elegant amusement of Archery has been introduced into the island, and the annual trials of skill, in contending for the various prizes, take place at Carisbrooke castle, generally during the month of August. It was first brought into note here in the year 1828. The attraction afforded is best exemplified by the number, beauty, and fashion of the assemblage.

Walks

ROUND NEWPORT.

A delightful walk, and comparatively unknown to the visitors, is by the side of the Medina river to Dodner, about two miles. The views are replete with interest; and when the tide is up, vessels are continually passing and repassing to or from Newport, to the entrance of Cowes harbour. At Dodner, a fatal accident occurred, in the year 1826, when a carrier, in conveying some powder from the barracks to the river, was killed, as were also two horses, in consequence of a spark, from the horse's shoe, causing the powder to ignite: the explosion caused considerable damage to the neighbouring house. Returning by the road, the House of Industry is passed on the right, when the road joins the Cowes and Newport road.

A walk through Shide to Pan Down, and St. George's Down, will amply repay the trouble, by the beauty, extent, and variety of the view, which comprehends the

rich vale of Arreton, the hills at the back of the island, the range of downs towards the Needles, Newtown, the Solent, the opposite coast of Hampshire, Newport, the Medina River, Cowes, Calshot Castle, Portsmouth, Spithead, and the intervening country; such are a few of the leading points presented in a beautiful panoramic view, obtained by a walk of two miles.

About a mile and a quarter from Newport, on the road to Cowes, are

THE ALBANY BARRACKS,

occupying a piece of ground 1211 feet by 700 feet. These barracks consist of five officers' houses, eight large and twelve small barracks, with out-houses of every description attached; an excellent house for the Commandant, and another for the Chief Accountant. The chapel stands on the South side of the parade, together with several additional buildings. The barracks are amply supplied with water from three excellent wells about 285 feet deep, having engine pumps, the water rising to within about thirty feet of the top. Next to Chatham, the parade ground is considered the most complete in the kingdom. The barracks were commenced in September 1798, and originally bore the name of Parkhurst, from the name of the forest which formerly stood on the site of their erection; but which was afterwards altered, out of compliment to the late Duke of York and Albany, during the period he was commander-in-chief of the army, to their present name, that of the Albany Barracks. The hospital stands to the North of the barracks, and contains four large and sixteen small wards, furnished with iron bedsteads, and every comfort and convenience to alleviate the pangs of illness. The surgeon's house stands in the centre, having store-houses in the rear. The ground appropriated to the hospital is about two acres. A piece of land, of one hundred square yards, walled in, forms the burial ground, and is situated to the North of the barracks, on the Cowes road.

The total enclosure of the barracks and hospital is about one hundred acres, encircled with a good plantation. In a sheltered situation, a little beyond the barracks, is a brick building, formerly used as a school for the orphan children of soldiers; from hence the children were removed at a suitable age to Chelsea. It is now unoccupied, the establishment being removed to the Military Asylum, near Southampton.

On the other side of the road, nearly opposite, stands

THE HOUSE OF INDUSTRY.

It is erected on land formerly part of Parkhurst Forest. This establishment is for the reception of the poor, aged, and infirm of the whole island. The poor of several parishes being consolidated, according to an Act of Parliament, passed in the year 1770, a grant was obtained from Government of eighty acres of ground, out of the forest of Parkhurst. The principal building extends in front 300 feet, having other buildings attached, and possessing all those comforts, conveniences, and admirable arrangements, which are found in many similar establishments. It is capable of

accommodating upwards of seven hundred individuals. To the North of the principal building stands the chapel, of which the Rev. G. Richards, M.A. is the chaplain. In order to employ those who, through want of employment, were compelled to throw themselves on the poor rates, a large farm was taken some years back, which has been cultivated at an annual loss of several thousand pounds; this is the more to be deplored, as no parties benefited by the arrangement, and the labour might have been beneficially employed in levelling some of the hills in various parts of the island, and forming a road from the Sandrock Hotel to Freshwater Gate, thus rendering the island more accessible, and therefore more attractive to visitors, and reducing the labour of the horses.

At the bottom of the hill, on the right-hand side of the road, sheltered by a grove of fine-grown trees, stands Saint Cross, the seat of Joseph Kirkpatrick, Esq. The spot commands attention, from the circumstance of its having been, previous to 1155, a priory, or hospital, dedicated to the Holy Cross, and a cell to the abbey of Tyronne, in France. During the reign of Richard II. it was used as an hospital. Subsequently it was seized by the crown, as an alien priory, and given to Winchester College, to which it at present appertains.

About a mile and a half from Newport we arrive at

THE VILLAGE OF CARISBROOKE.

The walk is delightfully pleasant along the Mall, which is the general promenade for the inhabitants of

Newport. The village stands on a hill, and, with its ancient church, forms one of the most picturesque views in the island. The church was erected in 1064. two years prior to the Norman conquest, was richly endowed by William Fitz-Osborne, in 1071, and is dedicated to St. Mary. It was formerly much larger than it is at present, having lost its chancel and North aisle, which were taken down to save the expense of repairing them, as the whole church was in a state of decay, and much too large for the use of the parishioners. The tower is a fine specimen of the solid architecture of our forefathers, and possesses a fine peal of eight musical bells. The church contains an organ, and one or two ancient monuments, deserving inspection. The churches of Newport, West Cowes, and Northwood, belong properly to it. A priory of black monks, situated to the North of the church-yard, was founded in 1071, by William Fitz-Osborne, Earl of Hereford, first Lord of the Isle of Wight, under William the Conqueror. He was also the founder of the abbey of Lyra, in Normandy, to which establishment he gave the profits of six churches out of the ten belonging to the island, which are mentioned in Doomsday Book. These were under the priory of Carisbrooke, which was also annexed by him to the abbey of Lyra. The churches were Arreton, Freshwater, Godshill, Newchurch, Niton, and Whippingham. When Edward III. laid claim to the French throne, he seized all the priories dependent on foreignmonasteries, and converted their revenues to his own use. The priory of Carisbrooke, by this means, fell into the

King's hands, and was subsequently granted to the abbev of Mount Grace, in Yorkshire. Henry IV. restored it to its original possessors, the monks of Lyra, which grant was revoked by his successor Henry V., and by him the priory was then presented to the Cistercian brethren of Sheen Abbey, in Surrey, which he had founded. It remained in their hands till the dissolution. and was leased by Henry VIII., together with the tithes of Godshill and Freshwater, for the annual rent of 200 marks*. The site of this ancient priory is at present occupied as a farm, and scarcely a vestige remains of the original building. The parish is extensive, and the present village was originally the chief town in the island; its name of Carisbrooke, is a corruption of its ancient name Whitgaraburgh, which name it derived from a Saxon chief during the heptarchy. The town was evidently indebted for its origin and importance to the castle, which was admirably calculated, in the feudal times, to protect the neighbourhood. The castle is now a heap of ruins, and, connected as it is with historical associations, possesses greater interest than most ruins in other parts of England. It stands on a hill, at a short distance from the town; the situation renders it highly picturesque, and its venerable walls are very beautiful. In contemplating these ruins more closely, the mind insensibly reverts to the period of feudal magnificence, when



[•] In the time of Cardinal Beaufort, it was valued at 20 marks per annum, the vicarage at 16, and the pro-curacy of Lyra at 40 marks.

the proud baron lorded it over his numerous vassals and retainers, and at times bade defiance even to the king himself; when theknightly tournament and costly banquet, succeeding to the "mimicry of noble war," made the welkin ring. How altered is the scene! Where formerly were magnificence and feudal splendour, and the prison of a king, there is now but a heap of mouldering ruins, and the oppressed and the oppressors "sleep the "long sleep of death!"

There are grounds for supposing that this castle was a fortress built by the ancient Britons. During the time the Romans were in possession of the island (which was subdued by Vespasian, in the reign of the Emperor Claudius) it was repaired, and enlarged by those conquerors of the ancient world, about forty-five years before the Christian era. It is generally admitted that the celebrated well in the castle yard was the work of the Romans, as it is well known they always made a point of procuring water, in despite of every obstacle, which neither the Saxons or Normans were so particular about. The well is 300 feet deep, and cut through the solid rock 200 feet. In the donjon, or keep, is also another well; it was originally of very considerable depth, but has since been partly filled up, as useless. Cerdic, the first monarch of the kingdom of West Saxons, of which this island was a part, in the year A.D. 530 besieged and took the fortress, and bestowed it on one of his generals, Whitgaraburgh, when the latter considerably strengthened it, and put it into a good state of defence. The castle then took his name, as it was customary with the Saxons, on effecting a conquest, to change the Roman name. The appellation has since been corrupted to its present title, Carisbrooke.

The present ruin consists of part of the structure erected, as an improvement to the old fortress, by William Fitz-Osborne, one of the principal commanders in the Norman invasion, and on whom William the Conqueror bestowed the lordship of the island, and created Earl of Hereford. The castle and its appendages after that period became the property of different pos-It was rebuilt in the reign of Henry I., by Richard de Rivers, Earl of Devonshire. It passed into the hands of Lord Woodville, who sold it to Edward IV., since which time it has appertained to the crown. arms of that nobleman are over the large gateway, and on each side, the white rose of the House of York. The building, having fallen greatly to decay, was repaired, and the works considerably enlarged, by Elizabeth. She likewise rebuilt the gateway, and the bridge at the entrance; on the arch of the gateway is the date, 1598, with the initials E. R. 40, being the period of the completion of the works. Jerome, Earl of Portland, who succeeded his father, in 1634, was captain of the Isle of Wight, and rendered himself obnoxious to the Parliament, by his attachment to the royal cause. During his absence, orders were despatched to Moses Read, Mayor of Newport, to seize the castle and its occupiers, consisting of the Countess of Portland, Colonel Brett, and a garrison of twenty men. The Mayor, at the head of four hundred sailors, and the Newport militia, marched to attack the castle. The noble-minded Countess resolved not to surrender the citadel except on honourable terms, and, both by precept and example, this heroic lady animated her little band. With a lighted match, she proceeded resolutely to one of the bastions, and declared she would discharge the first cannon against the besiegers. The gallant conduct of the Countess and her band of heroes, induced the Mayor to offer favourable terms of capitulation, to which the Countess acceded.

During the disputes between Charles I. and his Parliament, when that unhappy prince fell into the hands of the parliamentary forces, it was garrisoned by Cromwell's troops, who placed peculiar confidence in the men stationed here. The chapel of Saint Nicholas was rebuilt on the site of an ancient chapel, in 1738, by George II. (during the government of Lord Lymington), behind which is the cemetery of the castle, now converted into a garden. The parish of St. Nicholas consists of that part of Newport called Castle Hold; Corsham and lands, part of Shide Down; Great Park, part of Rowborough; and Shalcombe Farms, part of Dodner: the mother church, with the chief part of the parish, was originally in Normandy, in France.

The castle and grounds occupy about twenty acres. The exterior forms a delightful promenade of upwards of a mile, commanding charming and extensive views of the surrounding country. The grand entrance is over two bridges, on the West side of the structure, through a strong machicolated gate, strengthened by a portcullis, and flanked by two large round towers. Passing the wicket of this ancient gate, the castle-yard presents itself

to view, with the chapel of St. Nicholas on the right hand, where the Mayor of Newport, and the High Constables, are annually sworn into office, by the Governor of the island, or his deputy. Divine service is not now performed here.

On the left of the entrance are the remains of several apartments; amongst others, the suite of rooms in which Charles I. was confined. The window is still visible through which he attempted to escape. In the centre of the court stands the Governor's house, a comfortable mansion, but not distinguished by any peculiar beauty of architecture. Passing which building, the well-house arrests attention, and is nearly in the centre of the fortress. The water is remarkably good, and drawn by a wheel 15 feet in diameter, worked by an ass. In order to enable visitors to observe the admirable masonry work of the well, and the rock through which part of it is cut, a lighted lamp is lowered, by means of a pulley. The time occupied by the descent of water thrown in, ere it reaches the bottom of the well, is nearly four seconds, and it strikes with a powerful sound. The Keep is situated at the North-east corner of the fortifications of the court-yard, upon a spot considerably elevated above every other part; this elevation is evidently artificial, and most probably the work of the indefatigable and persevering Romans, whose military were inured to every labour of martial or civil constructions. ascent is by seventy-three steps, and in the building are nine more, leading to the parapet. In one of the apart-: ments of the keep the vestiges of a well are to be seen,

originally of very great depth, but now partly filled up. The view from the summit is extensive and beautiful: from the foot of the hill on which the castle stands, valleys branch off in every direction to the extremities of the island. Immediately below stands the ancient church and beautiful village of Carisbrooke, beyond which the eye is carried over the Solent sea to the coast of Hampshire, bounded by the New Forest. Newport, with the Medina meandering to Cowes, and the handsome tower of its chapel, are attractive features in the prospect, which extends to Portsdown Hill. On the South, St. Catherine's Hill, the loftiest in the island, bounds the view, which combines every diversity of hill and dale, wood and water; the land is in the highest possible state of cultivation, forming one of the most lovely and extensive prospects in the island. South-East of the castle are the remains of Mountjoy's tower, the walls of which are 18 feet thick; it appears to have been a work of considerable strength. A postern near the keep leads to the tilt-yard, or place of arms, surrounded with an artificial bank for the specta-Here, in days of yore, the gay tournament was held, and each gallant knight encountered his mailed antagonist. The castle, the scene of revelry and wassail, has fallen beneath the hand of time, and is now a splendid ruin; the heroes of the tournament are gone "to that bourne from whence no traveller returns;" and in place of the din of arms, the fair daughters of Vectis enter the lists, to contend for the prize awarded to the most skilful in the science of archery. The

meetings of the Archers of the Isle of Wight, are annually held in the tilt-yard; and in the summer of 1831, they were honoured by the presence of their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Kent and the Princess Victoria, with their suite, at the time they were sojourning at Norris Castle, near Cowes. The castle is 300 feet above the level of the valley, and its exterior truly picturesque, from whatever point it may be viewed.

The ordinary charge of the castle of Carisbrooke, in the second year of Queen Elizabeth, amounted annually to £.69 19s. 2d., including an armourer at 8d. a day, another at 6d., an harquebuss maker at 8d. a day, and one bowyer, one fletcher, one carpenter, and one wheelwright at 6d. a day each.

The military establishment at present is thus constituted:—the Governor of the island has an appointment of £.1200 per annum; a Lieutenant-Governor £.365 per annum; one Captain, 10s. a day; one Master gunner, at 2s. per day; and three gunners, at 1s. per day each.

This castle was the place of confinement of Charles I. During the period he remained here, two attempts were made in order to effect his escape. The first failed, through the monarch's not having taken the precaution to ascertain if the bars of the window of his apartment would permit him to get through. Every thing was so admirably arranged, that had he arrived at the outside of his prison, escape was certain. After getting his head through the bars, he found it impossible to proceed, and with difficulty extricated himself from his unpleasant situation. He then placed a light in the

window, as a signal to his friends that the attempt was A subsequent attempt was made, and the bars of the window cut asunder, either by means of aquafortis, or a saw; but this attempt failed by the treachery of some of the associates, and it was intended to shoot Charles as he came through the window. The monarch, seeing more people beneath his window than he expected, suspected that his intention was discovered: he therefore closed the casement, and returned to his bed. This window is pointed out to the visitor. On the 29th of November, he was seized by the army at Newport, and conveyed to Hurst Castle. In his way thither, meeting Mr. Edward Worsley, from whom he had received considerable attention, and who had been very active in attempting his escape, the monarch gave him the watch out of his pocket, as a token of his remembrance. "The " watch is still preserved in the family. It is of silver, " large, and clumsy in its form. The case is neatly " ornamented with filigree; but the movements are of " very ordinary workmanship, and wound up with " catgut *."

On the death of the king, his children were confined at Carisbrooke; and within its walls the Princess Elizabeth died; it is said to have been the intention of the ruling powers to have apprenticed her to a button maker. She was interred at Newport, where, in a vault under the chancel, the leaden coffin enclosing her remains, was discovered a few years since. The Pro-

[•] Gilpin on the Western Parts of England, p. 325.

tector Cromwell, and Charles II., used this castle as a prison.

Leaving the castle, a pleasant walk across the fields conducts to Marvel, with its copse. Marvel is celebrated as having been the site of a college of secular priests, founded by Henry de Blois, Bishop of Winchester, brother of King Stephen. Its revenues were augmented by Henry Woodlock and Peter de Roch. Pursuing the road to Newport, the entrance into the town is by Node Hill,—a corruption from Noddies' Hill,—a satirical appellation bestowed on the spot, from its having been the burial place of some French, who were defeated in an attempt on Carisbrooke Castle.

FROM NEWPORT TO NEWTOWN, SHAL-FLEET, YARMOUTH, &c.

Ascending Honey Hill, on arriving near the Barracks, a turn to the left leads for some distance over a good road, commanding fine views of Carisbrooke Castle and the interior of the island; a turning to the right leads to

NEWTOWN,

a small hamlet containing only fourteen cottages, and, according to the census of 1831, only sixty-eight inhabitants. Many circumstances, however, tend to prove it to have been a place of considerable consequence. Its ancient name is Francheville; but having been destroyed by the French in 1377, the first year of Richard II., when they also devastated Yarmouth, it acquired its present appellation on being rebuilt. The

direction of the various streets may yet be traced. It was formerly celebrated for its salterns, but they are not now worked. The harbour is reckoned one of the most capacious in the island, being of sufficient depth to admit vessels of 500 tons burthen. There is also a beautiful ruin, comparatively unknown; it is that of the church, situated in the midst of its cemetry. It has long been roofless, and its ancient walls are crumbling beneath the hand of time. The Gothic windows are now covered, like its walls, with ivy, which 'mid the summer heat, the winter's cold, 'mid rain or sunshine, still preserves its verdure unimpaired, and lives in the midst of desolation. The chapel was dependent on the church of Calbourne, and its glebe is yet enjoyed by the rector of that parish. Avlmer, Bishop of Winchester, lord of the borough, granted the first charter to Newtown; the instrument is dated at Swainston (at that period a palace belonging to the bishops of that see), and which was afterwards confirmed by the king. As a corporate body, the borough bought and sold lands under a common seal. By the charter of Edward II., a market was held on Wednesdays; and it also had a fair annually, which lasted three days, being held on the day preceding the feast of St. Mary Magdalen, and two following days.

These few cottages form a corporate town! The municipal body consists of a Mayor and Burgesses. His worship is chosen annually, and at a Court Leet constables are appointed; they claim the right of the water, and fishery. Newtown also returned two

Members to Parliament, who were elected by the mayor and burgesses. It first enjoyed this distinguished bonour in 1584, the 27th year of Elizabeth*. The right of election was vested in the mayor and burgesses of the said borough, having borough lands within the said borough. The greatest number of votes polled within the last thirty years is twenty-six †. The last Members were Sir William Horne, and Hudson Gurney, Esq‡.

Newtown being a manor within that of Swainston, the holders of the borough lands pay an annual rent to the Lord of the Manor of Swainston. The Town Hall is a stone building, standing on an eminence overlooking the harbour; on the ground floor is a cellar and kitchen. The Council Chamber is approached by a flight of steps, and visitors are allowed to make it a banqueting-room; but to do so, it will be necessary to carry their provisions with them. The chamber contains some curiously-carved antique chairs, of the days of Elizabeth. It may be worthy of remark, that the body corporate does not consist of the inhabitants, but of the proprietors of certain burgage tenures.

- This borough was disfranchised by the operation of the Bill to amend the Representation of the People, in the year 1832.
- † There is no person resident within this borough chargeable to the assessed taxes.
- In the autumn of 1831, a gentleman from the metropolis, visited Newtown; in the course of conversation with "mine host" of the only house of entertainment, called "The Newtown Arms," he inquired whether the Members ever honoured the borough with their presence? The landlord replied, with some hesitation, "E'es, zur, I seed one about forty years ago."

THE VILLAGE OF SHALFLEET

is about a mile from Newtown, and the church is an ancient edifice, having a low square tower. The Norman style of architecture may be distinctly traced in some parts of the building. The arms of Montacute, Earl of Salisbury, and Isabella de Fortibus, on glass, ornament some of the windows. On the left, as we proceed to Yarmouth, is Ningwood Manor House, a handsome building, with fine views of the Downs and Freshwater Cliffs. As we approach Yarmouth, the road conducts along the side of the water, affording uninterrupted views of Lymington, with its River, Hurst Castle, and the Lighthouses. On the left of the road, near the entrance of the town, is a handsome villa, the seat of the Rev. George Burrard; passing which, we enter the town of Yarmouth.

CHAP. VI.

YARMOUTH.

YARMOUTH is ten miles from Newport, and the only place of any importance in the West of the island. The number of inhabitants in the town and parish, according to the census of 1831, is 586. The town is of considerable antiquity, and contains several streets of well-built houses. It shared the fate of Newtown, in the first year of Richard II., being destroyed by the French in 1377. There is not much business carried on in the town; but vessels occasionally bring up in the roads, if the wind prevents their getting through the Needles. It was formerly much larger than at present, as the sites of several old streets can be clearly traced. In its ancient charters it is called Eremuth and Newport.

The establishment of a Steam Packet between this town and Lymington, has considerably increased the intercourse with the opposite shore, and rendered the communication direct with Weymouth and the West of England. Yarmouth has also the advantage of a regular steam communication with Portsmouth: these circumstances cause a considerable influx of strangers, who resort to the western part of the island, and tends materially to benefit the inhabitants of the borough.

YARMOUTH CHURCH.

The church is an ancient edifice, built in 1543, the 35th of Henry VIII., in whose reign the old church near the shore was destroyed by the French. It underwent a complete repair, and its tower was raised, in 1831, to a considerable elevation, by the munificence of J. Alexander, Esq., and the gallery was erected at the expense of the Corporation. The church now forms a conspicuous and beautiful feature in the scenery of this part of the island. It is dedicated to St. James. The King is the Patron of the living; and it likewise enjoys the augmentation of Queen Anne's bounty. In the chapel is a well-executed monument to the memory of Sir Robert Holmes, Bart., who was Governor of the island in the Reign of Charles II.

THE WESLEYAN CHAPEL

is a neat building, and convenient in its interior arrangements.

THE BAPTIST CHAPEL

is situated near the entrance of the town: it is a plain unpretending building, but fitted up with much attention to neatness and accommodation.

THE MARKET HOUSE AND TOWN HALL

stands a short distance from the church, and is a plain, but convenient, brick building. The market day is Wednesday. The Town Hall is a good room, and is over the Market House.

THE CORPORATION

consists of a Mayor, twelve Chief Burgesses, and an unlimited number of Free Burgesses, or Freemen. The first charter of franchise to the Town, was granted by Earl Baldwin, Lord of the Isle of Wight, in 1135, the 36th year of the reign of Henry I. It was re-incorporated by James I., the seventh year of his reign, in the This borough sent two Members to Parvear 1608. liament; a privilege it first exercised, the 33rd of Edward I., in 1304, and was the first town in the island selected for that honour. In the 27th of Elizabeth. 1584, it was again summoned, since which time it was regularly represented until 1832*; the last Members were Sir Henry Willoughby, Bart, and the Hon, Charles-Compton Cavendish. The elective franchise was vested in the Mayor and Corporation. The greatest number of votes polled during the last thirty years, is nine.

It is not necessary to reside in the town or neighbour-hood, to enjoy the dignified and honourable office of Mayor; but the Mayor can only be chosen from the Freemen of the borough. The town has also a Court of pie poudre, and Court Leet.

MAGISTRATES.

The following gentlemen are Magistrates of the island, residing in the neighbourhood:—the Rev. George Burrard, Yarmouth; Sir G. E. Hammond, Bart. Norton; and George Burrard, Esq.

 By the operation of the Reform Bill this borough was disfranchised in 1832.

THE CASTLE

commands the mouth of the river, and was erected by Henry VIII., on the site of a church which had recently been destroyed by the French. The expenses of its buildings were defrayed out of the religious houses which that monarch dissolved. The fortification consists of a platform mounting eight guns, and protects the channel between the town and Hurst Castle.

THE POST OFFICE

is situated in Quay Street; the Post-master is Mr. Squire. The mail arrives about ten o'clock, and leaves about three in the afternoon. Letters to London pass through Lymington, and from thence to Southampton.

HOTELS, INNS, &c.

The principal Hotel is the George, which is kept by Mr. Philip Bright. This house possesses considerable accommodation, and company meet with every attention to their wants and comforts. It is a large brick edifice, and was erected by Admiral Sir Robert Holmes, Governor of the island; he here entertained Charles II., in 1671, when that monarch visited the island. The house is pleasantly situated, near the quay. Visitors wishing to remain for the night at Yarmouth, will find this establishment admirably adapted to meet their wishes. The Bugle, kept by Mr. J. Butler, is also a comfortable house.

THE RIVER.

The river Yar, from which the town derives its name, presents at high water a beautiful entrance. It rises near Freshwater Gate, at the opposite side of the island, and is navigable to Freshwater Mills. The river and roads afford secure anchorage, and embarking or debarking is at all times easy and convenient.

FERRY.

In order to facilitate the communication with the Western extremity of the island, a ferry has been established, to the hamlet of Norton, on the opposite bank of the river.

The Glasgow steam packet, Robert Dore, commander, plies twice daily between Lymington and Yarmouth, and on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, her excursion is extended to Cowes and Portsmouth in the morning, returning to Yarmouth and Lymington in the evening. For the arrangement during the winter months, vide Appendix, page 186.

	Deck. Forecastle.			
	8.	d.	s.	d.
Fare.—Between Lymington and Yar- mouth	1	0	0	9
Yarmouth and Cowes	2	0	1	0
Lymington and Cowes	2	6	1	6
Lymington and Portsmouth	3	6	2	6
Yarmouth and Portsmouth	3	0	2	0

Children (under ten years of age), half-price.

By this conveyance, visitors are enabled to proceed direct from Portsmouth or Lymington to Yarmouth; and from Lymington or Yarmouth, by proceeding to Cowes, can take the packet for Southampton or Ryde. Whilst passengers from Southampton or Ryde, by taking the packet to Cowes, are enabled at Cowes to embark for Yarmouth or Lymington.

THE MAIL BOAT

leaves Lymington, for Yarmouth, at nine o'clock in the morning; and Yarmouth, for Lymington, at three in the afternoon. The fair is one shilling each person. Civility, respect, attention, and skill, are the distinguishing characteristics of this establishment.

BOATS.

Visitors desirous of crossing to Lymington, or sailing to Alum Bay, Hurst Castle, the Needles, or round to Freshwater Gate, by which means the magnificent coast scenery of this part of the island is viewed to the greatest advantage, can hire boats of a most excellent class here, and manned by skilful, steady, respectable, and civil boatmen.

FAIR.

The fair is held annually on the day preceding St. James's day, the titular saint of the church, and two following days. It has nothing in character to elevate its importance beyond that of the other fairs in the island.

The Walks,

IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD OF YARMOUTH,

are rural and retired, commanding views of Lymington, Hurst Castle, and the Dorsetshire hills. Crossing the ferry, we arrive at Norton, a pleasant village on the opposite side of the river, where there are several delightful villas and cottages. A walk from here to the Downs will repay the labour, by the beauty of the scenery. To the westward, the traveller will find the site of Carey's Sconce, and Worsley's Tower, two fortifications successively erected near the same spot, in the reigns of Henry VIII. and Elizabeth. Returning to Yarmouth we proceed from thence to

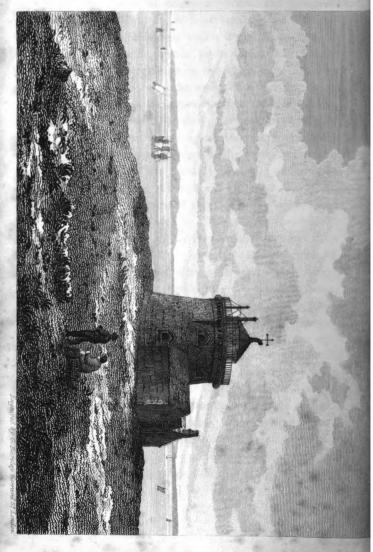
FRESHWATER,

a pleasant ride, of about two miles and a half. The church formerly belonged to the priory at Carisbrooke, and was given by William Fitz-Osborne, with five others, to the Abbey of Lyra, in Normandy. It is now in the presentation of St. John's College, Cambridge, and is reckoned the most valuable living in the island. The church is dedicated to All Saints. Near the church is the Red Lion Inn, a small, but comfortable, house, kept by Mr. Robert Corney. Freshwater parish was the birth-place of the celebrated Dr. Hooke, M.D., in the year 1635. Proceeding over the Downs, and passing Farringford Hill, the seat of John Hambrough, Esq., we arrive at

ALUM BAY.

The Needles Hotel, in the immediate vicinity of Alum Bay, is a most comfortable house, where the visitor is assured of meeting every attention, from Mr. James Groves. A day or two may be pleasantly and comfortably spent in examining the various objects of interest with which this part of the island abounds. Visitors, who are partial to aquatic excursions, may procure a boat, on reasonable terms, to the Needle Rocks, Scratchell's Bay, and round to the Albion Hotel, Freshwater Gate, or to the opposite shore. A horse and carriage is also kept for the accommodation of visitors. The establishment has good stabling. The house is admirably situated, taking in all the views which this lofty promontory commands in such variety. The Warren abounds with rabbits, and the sportsman will find ample exercise for his skill, after obtaining permission from Mr. James Groves, who is the warrener. The descent to the shore is easy. The cliffs that form Alum Bay are terrific, when viewed from the beach. derives its name from the quantity of that mineral found on the shore. A huge angle of rock, forming the Needle Point, is the boundary of the bay to the West. The charming scenery of the bay has been thus elegantly described by Sir H. Englefield, in his Picturesque Account of the Island:-" The chalk forms " an unbroken face every where, nearly perpendicular, " and in some parts formidably projecting; and the "tenderest stains of ochreous yellow, and greenish moist vegetation vary, without breaking, its sublime uniformity. This vast wall extends more than a quarter of a mile, and is probably near 400 feet in height; its termination is by a thin edge of bold broken outline; and the wedge-like Needle rocks, rising out of the blue waters, continue the cliff in idea, beyond its present boundary, and give an awful impression of the stormy ages which have gradually devoured its enormous mass. The pearly hue of the chalk is beyond description by words, probably out of the power even of the pencil.

" The magical repose of this side of the bay is most " wonderfully contrasted by the torn forms and vivid " colouring of the clay cliffs on the opposite side. " These offer a series of points, of a sort of scolloped " form, and which are often quite sharp and spiry. " Deep rugged chasms divide the strata in many places, " and not a vestige of vegetation appears in any part: " all is wild ruin. The tints of these cliffs are so " bright, and so varied, that they have not the ap-" pearance of any thing natural. Deep purplish red, "dusky blue, bright ochreous yellow, gray nearly " approaching to white, and absolute black, succeed " each other, as sharply defined as the stripes in silk; " and after rain, the sun, which, from about noon till " its setting, in summer, illuminates them more and " more, gives a brilliancy to some of these, nearly as " resplendent as the high lights on real silk. Small



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- " vessels often lie in this bay, for the purpose of loading
- " chalk; and they most admirably show the majestic
- " size of the cliffs, under whose shade they lie dimi-
- " nished almost to nothing."

Large quantities of the white sand are annually shipped here, for various glass and china manufactories. Rabbits abound in the warrens, on these downs. Specimens of the coloured sands, skilfully arranged in bottles, may be purchased here, or at the different towns in the island, varying in price, from 1s. to 5s., according to the size of the specimen, and are elegant ornaments to a chimney-piece.

THE NEEDLE LIGHTHOUSE

is a curiously-constructed building, situated on the highest point of these lofty cliffs, which are 600 feet above the level of the sea, and near the edge of the cliff forming the Western extremity of the island. It contains ten Argand lamps, having a deep concave reflector of copper behind each, plated with silver, kept beautifully clean. A curtain is drawn before them during the day, the wick of a lamp in a corresponding situation having been found to have taken fire, in consequence of the concentration of the rays of the sun upon it, from a reflector of a similar kind.

SONNET.

On these white cliffs, that, calm above the flood,
Uplift their shadowing heads, and, at their feet,
Scarce hear the surge that has for ages beat,
Sure many a lonely wand'rer has stood;
And, whilst the lifted murmur met his ear,
And o'er the distant billows the still eve
Sailed slow, has thought of all his heart must leave
To-morrow; of the friends he lov'd most dear;
Of social scenes, from which he wept to part.
But if, like me, he knew how fruitless all
The thoughts that would full fain the past recal,
Soon would he quell the risings of his heart,
And brave the wild winds and unhearing tide,
The world his country, and his God his guide.

REV. W. L. BOWLES.

THE NEEDLES, AND THE NEEDLES' POINT.

The Needle Point is the Western extremity of the Freshwater Cliffs; the view from thence is beautiful in the extreme; it comprises a long line of the Hampshire coast, and New Forest; Lymington, and its River; Hurst Castle; the Shingles (a shifting sand), between the Needles and Hurst; Christchurch, with its capacious bay; the entrance to Poole Harbour; the Isle of Purbeck, with its iron-bound coast, which was fatal some years since to the Governor Halsewell East Indiaman; and the Dorsetshire coast, to St. Alban's Head: and, in clear weather, to Portland Isle. To the Southward, the English channel appears in all its majesty, enlivened by

the passing and repassing of vessels, of all sizes and all descriptions. The coast of the island is clearly defined to its Southern extremity. At the foot of the point are the rocks, from which it derives its name. They are three in number, and were evidently part of the cliff, but the softer parts having been washed away, by the united violence of the winds and waves, they were reduced to their present form. The spiral rock, which gave name to the groups, was 120 feet high, but, yielding to the fury of the elements, it fell, with a tremendous crash, in 1764. These rocks appear to much greater advantage viewed from the water. On the 11th of June, 1811, the Pomona, a fifty-gun frigate, struck on the Needles, and shortly went to pieces. The crew and passengers, amongst whom were some Persian princes, were fortunately saved. The wind here, at times, has amazing power, and a storm viewed from this point is awfully grand. Nothing can surpass the serenity of this spot on a summer's night, when the bright moon shines o'er the dark blue waves, and in its ripple reflects a long stream of brilliancy. Far from the busy haunts of men-the cares, the anxieties of life, are for the time forgot, andthe feelings elevated beyond this world, to which we scarcely feel that we belong. The wild sublimity of the scenery here contrasts finely with the highly cultivated portion of the Island to the Eastward. Freshwater Cliffs, from their immense height, and chalky appearance, may rival any of the white cliffs of Albion; even those of Dover. The height of the famed

cliff alluded to by our immortal Shakspeare, is here equalled by a long-extended range of perpendicular precipices: and the awful occupation of the bold gatherer of samphire is here combined with the taking of the eggs, and destroying the birds that nestle in the crevices below the summit of the cliff. The country people, resident in this part of the island, are very dexterous in taking the eggs of the sea birds, which resort here, in innumerable quantities, from May till towards September. They consist chiefly of puffins, wild pigeons, razor-bills, starlings, willocks, daws, gulls, cormorants, Cornish choughs, and that valuable species of anas, the Eider duck, the down of which is so celebrated for its softness. The country people incur much risk, in order to secure the eggs and feathers of the birds, great quantities of which are annually destroyed for the sake of their plumage; and the most appalling danger is fearlessly braved. An iron crow is fixed in the top of the cliff, to which a rope is attached, having a piece of wood at the end; as soon as the man is seated, he halloos, upon which the birds quit the holes wherein their eggs are deposited, and, flying away, leave them a prey to the adventurous plunderer. It is said, that a man engaged in this perilous work, tempted by the prospect of a large collection of eggs, situated in a crevice beyond the perpendicular of the cliff, left his rope unthinkingly, and while intent upon his prize, the seat vibrating less and less, nearly gained its position perpendicularly with the top of the

eliff. But one chance, and that a desperate one, presented itself for his escape from starvation, and that chance incurred the risk of instantaneous death, by being dashed to pieces at the foot of the precipice, had he missed the rope. His daring was crowned with success, and he succeeded in reaching the summit of the cliff in safety. This part of the island yields a fund of subjects highly picturesque. The cliffs, with the sea boldly swelling at their base, or dashing with wild sublimity into foam—the screaming of the wild seabirds-the passing ships-the fishermen and boats, in all their varied circumstances and occupations—the changing seasons-the varying weather-present scenes of peculiar beauty, and which rivetted the attention of that pupil of nature, Morland, most of whose sea views were sketched about this part of the island. Pursuing the coursealong the down, and passing a sea-mark, we follow the decline of the cliffs, till we arive at

FRESHWATER GATE.

The Albion Hotel, situated on the beach, is an excellent establishment, kept by Mrs. Plumbly and Son, affording every requisite accommodation. The house, being close to the sea shore, in a most romantic part of Freshwater, is admirably situated to form a resting-place for those who wish to view the stupendous rocky scenery around to the best advantage, which is done from the water, about a quarter of a mile from the shore; and the visitor is assured of meeting with every

civility and attention from the worthy hostess and her son. Boats can be readily procured on application, which will enable the tourist to view the beauties and curiosities of this romantic portion of the island to the greatest advantage.

The following is a list of the principal objects of attraction:—

- Freshwater Cave, 120 feet deep; this cave is easily accessible at low water, but care should be taken not to remain too long within it on a flowing tide.
- 2. Watcombe Bays and Rock.
- 3. The four Caves of Watcombe.
- Neptune's large Cave, which is 200 feet deep, and a smaller Cave, 90 feet in depth.
- 5. Bar Cave, 90 feet deep.
- 6. High Down Cliffs, 617 feet above the level of the sea.
- 7. Frenchman's Hole, a Cave 90 feet in depth.
- 8. Lord Holmes's Parlour and Kitchen.
- Roe's Hall, Cliffs 600 feet high, and the Wedge Rock, an object of great curiosity.
- 10. Old Pepper Rock.
- A range of Cliffs called the Main Bench, the principal nesting place of Puffins, Willocks, Razor-Bills, Choughs, Hawks, Cormorants, &c. &c.
- 12. Preston's Bower.
- 13. Scratchell's Bay.
- 14. The five Needle Rocks.
- Thence proceeding to Alum Bay, which has been fully described at page 127.

The views from the various caves commanding the British Channel, are enlivened by the labours of the fisherman following his occupation; the passing and repassing of vessels of all sizes and descriptions; and the near approach of the steamer, which makes its weekly excursion round the island during the summer months. On the Eastern side of Freshwater Bay, are two remarkable isolated rocks, one conical, the other forming an irregular arch; both have long withstood the attack of winds and waves. Thence the eye glances along Afton Down, the South-Western coast of the island, till it reaches St. Catherine's Hill and Rocken End. On the beach are Bathing Machines, which Mrs. Plumbly and her son have established, for the accommodation of their guests. The stabling is comfortable, and cars and gigs are also kept for hire; thus enabling visitors who resort to this romantic district, to visit every object worthy their attention, or to proceed to other parts of Freshwater Gate is twelve miles from the island. Newport, five miles from Yarmouth, three miles and a half from the Needles, and three miles from Alum Bay.

SCRATCHELL'S BAY,

situated in the cliffs nearer the Needles, presents various curious strata, which overhang nearly 200 feet. The shore offers numerous attractions to the scientific, in a variety of fossils, impregnated with the rocky substance of the cliff, together with native spars. Copperas stones are frequently thrown by the tide on the beach, and pieces of iron ore, in its primitive state,

are sometimes strewn along the shore. Veins of rock, shooting from the cliffs, run to a length that cannot be ascertained, terminating in the sea. At a distance they appear like water pipes, and, on examination, are found to consist, in the middle, of a vein of black rock, covered with an incrustation of iron. The shape of these veins is singular, but very regular, and pointed; they dart into the sea among the other rocks, which form the entrance of Freshwater Cave. The Needle Cave is 300 feet deep.

From Freshwater Gate we proceed over the downs of Afton, commanding fine sea and land views, to the village of

BROOK,

which lies in a recess, formed by two mountains; these shelter it from the violence of the winds. The church, viewed from the valley, is picturesque; it was formerly a chapelry to Freshwater, but is now a distinct parish. On the shore is a small chine. The places to which, in these parts, the name of chine is given, are breaks or chasms in the cliffs, which seem to have been occasioned by some violent convulsion of nature, or caused by the constant action of the various springs, washing away the softer substance. Leaving Brook, we arrive at

MOTTISTON,

a little village, beautifully situated, and commanding extensive views of the country, and the English Channel. On an eminence, overlooking the village, is a curious relic of antiquity, called Longstone, which, as its name imports, is a rude piece of rock, of considerable size, apparently erected by art. It is a mass of the hardest stratum of sandstone, abundant in the neighbourhood, and, by its colour, contains much iron. twelve feet high, above the level of the ground, and approaches to a quadrangular form, though by no means of a regular shape. It has not in the least the appearance of having been hewn or wrought, except, perhaps, by having had the most prominent parts beaten off-an operation to which the rudest savages are fully competent. Near it, another large stone, of about eight feet long, lies on the ground, but it is quite uncertain whether it was ever in an erect position. No trace of a ditch, or earth-work of any sort, is discoverable about it; its sides are deeply furrowed by the weather, and covered with lichens of various dyes; and the rudeness of the scenery around it accords well with the very antique character of the stone.

The manor-house was the birth-place of Sir John Cheke, in 1514, who was tutor of Edward VI. The rocks are dangerous if vessels approach too near the shore, and here on the 5th July, 1829, the Carn Brea Castle, Captain James Barber, bound to Bengal, having sailed from Spithead at nine o'clock in the morning, fatally terminated her voyage about three o'clock the same afternoon. The crew and passengers were saved, but the vessel was entirely lost. The church is an ancient edifice, possessing nothing to interest the visitor or antiquarian. The next village we arrive at, is

BRIXTON, OR BRIGHTSTONE,

called by the country people Brison. The church is of a very primitive character; it has a low tower, with a short leaden spire, and a peal of five bells; the pews are neatly fitted up, and its internal decorations are exceedingly chaste. Brixton Bay commences at Atherfield Point, about which, and Fishing Cove, pyrites are found. There are also several chines of minor importance, as Cowledge, on the East, and Stripledge, Jackmans, and Chilton, on the West. Of these, Jackmans is the principal, and leads from the village of Brixton to the shore. Between Cowledge and Stripledge Chines, is Barnes Hole, a very remarkable cavern; the sides are black, and near 400 feet high. Grange Chine Point, to the West of Jackmans, is also remarkable for a cave called the Dutchman's Hole, so named from a large ship of that nation running into it. The bay is surrounded by dangerous rocks. Brixton village is about seven miles South-West from Newport, and nearly the same from Yarmouth and Freshwater; it is a very pleasant village, commanding an extensive prospect of the British Channel. There are two inns in the village, the New Inn, kept by E. Corrie, and the Five Bells. Two miles hence is

SHORWELL,

which is a chapelry to Carisbrooke. The church contains several monuments of the Leigh family, the former possessors of Northcourt House. The architecture of this venerable edifice is very similar to Brixton church. The greatest attraction in this charminglysituated village is Northcourt, the seat of Sir James Willoughby Gordon, Bart. This spacious and venerable mansion was erected in the reign of James I.; it was commenced by Sir John Leigh, who died in 1629, and finished by his son. The grounds are well worthy inspection, and possess some of the finest grown timber in the island. The elegant little dairy is fitted up with much taste, having windows of coloured glass, and the other appointments to correspond. In a secluded glen in the grounds, a beautiful mausoleum to the memory of a beloved daughter of the late R. Bull, Esq. was erected, by her bereaved parent, in 1795, containing several appropriate inscriptions in various languages. There are numerous admirably-disposed rustic seats in various parts of the grounds; and an Alpine bridge, over the Newport road, leads to the Temple of the Sun, commanding fine views of the British channel, St. Catherine's Hill, and the rich groves and plantations of Northcourt. The next village in the route is

KINGSTON.

which is the smallest parish in the island. The church is pleasantly situated, and shaded by a magnificent grove of elms. There is a fine land view from the bowling green on the North side of the sacred pile. From Kingston we proceed to

CHALE.

This is a neat village; its church, which has a handsome square tower, and is dedicated to St. Andrew, was built by Hugh Vernon in the reign of Henry I. It is similar in the lower part to Carisbrooke, but not so large. The Eastern part of the building of Chale Farm presents an object of gratification and interest to the antiquary, from the ancient style of its architecture. From hence we ascend the summit of

ST. CATHERINE'S HILL,

said to be the highest land in the island, being near eight hundred feet above the level of the sea at low water mark. From hence there is a magnificent view completely round the island, except in one point, which is interrupted by the Brixton Downs. To the West, the islands of Portland and Purbeck may be clearly distinguished, on a fine day. Cooke, in his New Picture of the Isle of Wight, says "Sometimes, in the clearest "weather, may be seen even the highest part of the "French coast, adjoining Cherbourg; but this is rare, " to the sight even of the party stationed at the Signal "House." The land near Lymington seems almost to join the island, a small portion only of the Solent being visible; the New Forest, the Southampton Water. Portsdown Hill, the hills of Sussex, and, in a clear day, Beachy Head, form the Eastern extremity of the view beyond Brighton. The Medina river takes its rise at the foot of this hill, and, after passing through Newport

joins the sea at Cowes. It is an inconsiderable stream from hence to Newport, quite unworthy the distinguished appellation of a river.

In the early part of November 1832, as Captain E. J. Atkinson, R.N. was cruising off this part of the island, in a yacht belonging to Cowes, being becalmed, he put out his fishing lines, and was much surprised to find shoal water: being well out from the land, where general depth is about thirty fathoms. On gathering in his line, he found that he was on a bank of seven fathoms, but was soon drifted from it by the tide, and found that the water deepened rapidly. The marks and bearings from the bank were "the Needles Light-" House, just open of St. Catherine's Point, the latter " distant twenty-five miles, and the Ower's Light Vessel, " N.E. $\frac{3}{4}$ N. about twenty miles." It therefore lies very nearly on the meridian of Selsey Bell, distant from it twenty-three miles. This shoal is not much known, but some fishermen have been long acquainted with it, who have turned their knowledge to a considerable profit, from the abundance of cod, and other fish, found on the bank.

The Down ought to be visited by every lover of the romantic and sublime, as the view cannot be surpassed for variety and interest. St. Catherine's Tower, and a signal station, now abandoned, are of essential service, by day, to vessels navigating the channel. The down derives its name from the tower, having been previously called Chale Down. "Walter de Godyton, in the year "1323, built a chapel here, dedicated to St. Catherine,

"assigning certain rents for a chantry priest to sing mass, and also to provide lights for the safety of such vessels as chanced to come on that dangerous coast during the night. At the dissolution of chantries, it was perhaps found impracticable to divide the useful from the superstitious part of the institution; so that the whole fell together, the chantry involving the lighthouse in its ruin. By an entry in the registers of this diocese, it appears, that, eleven years before the erection of this chapel, there was an hermitage standing on the same spot; the entry is as follows: Walter de Langstrell admissus ad hermitorium supra montem de Chale, in insula Vectis, Idil, Octobris, A.D. 1312*."

The tower is thirty-five feet six inches high, octangular without and quadrangular within, finished with a pyramidical roof; each side, interior as well as exterior, being exactly four feet. When the tower was repaired, "The foundation of the whole chapel was also cleared "and levelled; by which, not only its figure was dis-"covered, but also the floor and stone hearth of the "priest's little cell at the South-West corner, close "to the tower †." At the Northern extremity of these downs stands the Medina Hermitage, the seat of James Barlow Hoy, Esq. It is a good house, and has an excellent verandah, of open trellis work, beautifully covered with the choicest climbing plants. On the brow of the hill is an elegant column, seventy-two feet high,

[•] See Sir Richard Worsley, page 246. † ib. 247.

and visible from the greater part of the island, erected by the late Michael Hoy, Esq. having the following inscription:—" In commemoration of the visit of his "Imperial Majesty, Alexander I., Emperor of all the "Russias, to Great Britain, in the Year 1814, and in "remembrance of the many happy years' residence in his "dominions, this pillar was erected by Michael Hoy." Returning along the hill, the next village is

NITON,

or, as it is sometimes called, Crab Niton, from the number of crabs found on the coast in its vicinity. Niton is about eight miles and a half from Newport, and at the Eastern extremity of St. Catherine's Hill, in an elevated situation, nearly a mile from the shore; its sheltered position deprives it of sea views, or even a landscape of interest, compared with those of the surrounding places. The village consists of two streets, containing comfortable dwellings, built with stone, and thatched, most of them possessing orchards. church is of great antiquity, and dedicated to St. John the Baptist; it was one of those given by William Fitz-Osborne to the Abbey of Lyra, in Normandy. church came to the Crown at the dissolution of religious houses, and was, with five other churches in Hampshire. given to Queen's College, Oxford, by Charles I., in exchange for the College plate. The vicarage of Godshill, and the chapel of Whitwell, are also annexed to this living. The church is built of freestone, and consists of two aisles, with a stone tower. Near the church are the steps of the ancient stone cross, supposed to have been used for the ceremony of baptism. In the parish register is the following entry:

"July 1, A.D. 1675, Charles II., King of Great Britain, France, Ireland, &c. came safely on shore at Puckaster, after he had endured a great and dan- gerous storm at sea. Ut regnet diu et feliciter, vovit et expotat, Thomas Collinson, rector de Nighton." The rectory is an excellent and comfortable building, of modern date. The White Lion Inn stands near the centre of the village.

In or near Niton, the gallant Admiral Hobson, a native of Bonchurch, is said to have been apprenticed to a tailor, in the reign of Queen Anne; who, hearing a British fleet was passing the back of the White, went with his shopmates to view the sight; struck with the novelty and grandeur of the view he ran to the shore, and jumping into a boat made for the fleet, where he was taken on board. The day following they fell in with a French squadron, which afforded young Hobson an opportunity of evincing the most undaunted and determined courage; the path of promotion was opened to him, and he subsequently attained the rank of admiral.

Following the route towards the shore, we pass, on the right hand, Westcliff, the elegant residence of Robert Holford, Esq.

The visitor is now enabled to view the commencement of that part of the island called the Undercliff.

CHAP. VII.

THE UNDERCLIFF.

This singularly-wild and yet cultivated and romantic scenery is peculiar to the district we are now entering upon, and, by the variety of sublime and picturesque beauty, will alone amply repay the visitor for an excursion to the island. It comprises an extent of about six miles, commencing at the Western extremity of St. Catherine's Hill, and terminating at the East end; the whole distance being replete with beauty. On the North side rises a perpendicular wall of rock; in some places large projections overhang the road, and almost seem to frown destruction; large and magnificent masses of rock lie in every direction on the ground beneath, and in many instances form the greatest ornaments to the grounds of the numerous villas which so beautifully ornament this romantic region. Churches, villages, mills-trees of fine growth and great variety, the oak, the ash, the holly, with the laurel, and a number of the evergreen tribethe velvet lawn-the cottage style of the villas-the rising dell-the numerous streams, flowing to the sea-the corn field-wild flowers, in vast profusion, yielding their fragrance—the wide expanse of the British Channel to the South, with the vessels passing-all combine to render

this spot a concentration of the varied beauties, which may, separately, elsewhere form attractions. The contrast is fine between the cultivated land, which descends terrace-like to the shore, and the barren sublimity of the cliff, which screens this part of the island from the Northern blast. The distance between the cliff and the shore varies, in places, from half a mile to a mile and a half. Even in winter, this place appears to great advantage; the number of evergreens, many of them of considerable size, give a verdant appearance to the scene, while if the sun but peep from the heavens, the cliff reflects back his rays, rendering the temperature extremely mild.

The following remarks are extracted from an admirable work on "The Influence of Climate in the Prevention and Cure of Chronic Diseases, more particularly of the Chest and Digestive Organs," by James Clark, M.D.

Speaking of the Isle of Wight, he says, "The island, from the variety which it presents, in point of elevation, soil, and aspect, and from the configuration of its hills and shores, possesses several peculiarities of climate and situation, which render it a very favourable and commodious residence throughout the year, for a large class of invalids. On this account, the Isle of Wight claims our particular attention, as it comprehends within itself advantages which are of great value to the delicate invalid, and to obtain which, in almost any other part of England, he would require to make a considerable journey.

"We shall first examine the advantages which it possesses as a winter climate.

" The part of the island more particularly adapted " as a winter residence for invalids, is that denominated " Undercliff, which comprehends a small tract of country " on the South-East coast, about six miles in length, " and from a quarter to half a mile in breadth, extending " from Dunnose to St. Catherine's Hill. This singular " district consists of a series of terraces, formed by frag-" ments of rock, of chalk, and sandstone, which have been " detached from the cliffs and hills above, and deposited " upon a substratum of blue marl. The whole of the " Undercliff, which presents in many places scenery of " the greatest beauty, is dry, and free from moist or im-" pure exhalations, and is completely sheltered from the " North, North-East, North-West, and West winds, by " a range of lofty downs, or hills of chalk and sandstone, " which rise boldly from the upper termination of these " terraces, in elevations, varying from four to six and " seven hundred feet*, leaving Undercliff open only in " a direct line to the South-East, and obliquely to the " South-West winds, which rarely blow here with great " force." 'On this part of the coast,' says Dr. Lem-" priere, 'we have a climate as favourable to the invalid " 'as any part of England can afford. This is proved,

• The height of the range is greatest at its two extremities. St. Catherine's Hill is nearly 900, and St. Boniface Down 800 feet above the level of the sea: The intermediate parts of the range vary from 650 to 700 feet.

" 'not only by thermometrical observation, but also by
" 'the state of vegetation during the colder months of
" 'the year, when the myrtle, geraneum, and many other
" 'exotic plants, flourish luxuriantly in the open air; and
" 'that even in seasons when the severity of the frost has
" 'destroyed the green-house plants in the North side
" 'of the island, though placed in sheltered apartments.
" 'Snow is rarely seen, and frosts are only partially
" 'felt here.'

" When the first edition of this work was published, " I had a very imperfect knowledge of the Undercliff, " and should not have ventured to give any account of " it, but for the kind assistance of Dr. Lempriere, to " whom I was indebted for the above description. I " can now speak from personal observation; and, as far " as my opportunities enable me to judge, I am of " opinion, that the picture drawn by that gentleman is " by no means too highly coloured. Indeed, it is a " matter of surprise to me, after having fully examined " this favoured spot, that the advantages which it pos-" sesses in so eminent a degree, in point of shelter " and exposition, should have been so long overlooked " in a country like this, whose inhabitants, during the " last century, have been traversing half the globe in " search of climate. The physical structure of this " singular district has been carefully investigated and " described by the geologist, and the beauties of its " scenery have been often dwelt upon by the tourist; " but its far more important qualities as a winter resi-" dence for the delicate invalid, seem scarcely to have " attracted attention, even from the medical philoso-" pher.

" The continuous range of high hills, which separates " this district from the rest of the island, protects it most " effectually from all Northerly winds, while numerous " short ridges, which project from this towards the sea, " break, in a considerable degree, the violence of the " South-West winds. The protection afforded by this " Northern barrier is greatly increased by the very " singular and striking abruptness with which it termi-" nates on its Southern aspect. This, in many places, " consists of the bare perpendicular rock of sandstone, " in others of chalk, assuming its characteristic rounded " form, covered with fine turf and underwood; but " almost every where the Southern face of the hill is so " steep as to justify the appellation conferred on the " beautiful tract which extends from its base to the sea " shore". The defence afforded by this natural bul-" wark against Northerly winds is, indeed, more perfect " than any thing of the kind I have met with in this " country; and the transition of climate experienced in " descending from the exposure of the open and ele-" vated down, to the shelter of the Undercliff, will " remind the Italian traveller of his sensations on " entering the valley of Domo d'Ossola, after quitting " the chilly defiles of the Simplon. You feel at once " that you have entered a new climate; and the luxu-" riance of the vegetable tribes, which you find around

[•] Undercliff, i. e. under the Cliff.

" you, proves that the impression made on the senses " has not been deceitful.

" The whole of the Undercliff, however, is not pro-" tected in an equal degree. The Eastern part, com-" prehending the country from Bonchurch to the village " of St. Lawrence, a distance of nearly three miles, has, " in this respect, the advantage over the Western portion, " extending from the latter village to Niton. This part " is more open to the South-Westerly winds; but even " here there are several very sheltered spots, and the " temperature does not differ materially, I believe, from " that of the Eastern division. The whole extent of " Undercliff is, indeed, singularly protected from winds; " and I apprehend it will be difficult to find, in any " Northern country, a tract of equal extent and variety " of surface, and I may add (as by no means a matter " of indifference to the invalid), of equal beauty in point " of scenery, so completely screened from the cutting " North-East winds of the spring, on the one hand, and " from the boisterous Southerly gales of the autumn " and winter, on the other. Nor must it be supposed, " from what has been stated, that Undercliff is a close " and confined situation. Although low, relatively with " its Northern boundary, it is still very considerably " elevated above the sea level, as its Southern limit " terminates, on the shore, in a perpendicular cliff of " from sixty to eighty feet or more in height along its " whole extent. The Undercliff may therefore be " represented as a lofty natural terrace, backed by a " mountainous wall on the North, and open on the South

" to the full influence of the sun, from his rising to his "going down, during that season, at least, when his "influence is most wanted in a Northern climate.

"Owing to its elevation above the level of the sea,
"the Undercliff differs from most of the situations on
"our coast, in being less exposed to the direct and
"immediate influence of the sea air; a circumstance
"which, in a medical point of view, deserves consideration. It is partly also to this elevated site, and
"partly to the configuration of its coast and relative
"position of its hills, that Undercliff is so remarkably
"exempt from sea fogs. I am also inclined to believe
"that less rain falls at Undercliff than on the South
"coast generally, and even than on other parts of the
"Isle of Wight. But this is a conjecture, founded, in
"a great measure, on a consideration of the topogra"phical relations of the place*. The soil, consisting

• The following comparison of the average number of rainy days during the winters of 1827-8 and 1828-9, at Undercliff and Gosport, is strongly in support of such an opinion.

	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	Total.
Undercliff	7	11	9	8	7	42
Gosport	9	16	10	11	10	56

Supposing these two years to afford an approximation to the average number of rainy days at Undercliff, the following table will give an idea of the dryness of its climate compared with that of some other places. The meteorologist will, however, make allowance for the difference of the years compared.

	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	Total.		
Undercliff	7	11	9	8	7	42	1827	1829
Clifton	11	16	15	15	13	70	1814	1815
London	15	18	14	16	13	76	1807	1816
Penzance	17	18	14	16	13	78	1807	1820

" chiefly of the detritus of the sandstone and chalk " from the incumbent cliff, is naturally dry, and speedily " regains its dryness after rain. The nature of the " rock, and the general shelving form of the surface, are " likewise in favour of Undercliff being a dry situation. " I have not been able to obtain meteorological obser-" vations for a sufficient length of time to enable me " to determine the actual temperature of Undercliff: " those which I have procured, however, were made " with great care, and are therefore very valuable. " am indebted for them, as well as for much useful " information on the subject of this article, to Lieutenant-" Colonel Hewett, a close and accurate observer, who " has resided during two years at St. Boniface. But " although implicitly to be relied on, as far as they go, " Colonel Hewett's observations cannot be considered as " sufficient to determine with precision the climate of " Undercliff. I shall, therefore, on the present occasion, " content myself with giving a few statements respecting " the comparative temperature of this and some other " places during the winters of 1827-8, and 1828-9, which " I am disposed, however, to consider as affording a " tolerably correct view of their relative mildness in

It is right to remark that Colonel Hewett's observations at Undercliff were confined to the day, being made solely with the view of ascertaining the merits of the place as a residence for invalids; every day, however, on which any rain fell, is reckoned in the above calculation. Indeed, I have no doubt that more extended observations, including the results obtained by the rain guage, and hygrometer, will show the olimate of the Undercliff to be a dry one, compared with other English climates,

" general. If I am right in this conclusion, my state-" ments will have the greater value, as they refer to " that season the temperature of which is of most con-" sequence to those who are likely to frequent this spot. "The mean temperature of Undercliff, at 8 a. m., " during the months of December, January, and Feb-"ruary, of the winters of 1827-8, and 1828-9, was 440.5; " while that of Gosport, one of the warmest spots on the " South coast, was 42°.5; that of Chichester only 41°.; " Penzance, during the same period, was 45°.7. " the first three months of 1828, the mean temperature " of Undercliff, at 8 a. m., was 45°.4, while that of " Gosport was 43°.7; of Chichester, 42°.5; of London, "41°.5; and that of Penzance, 45°.7. The temperature " of Hastings, during the same months, at nine, was " only 43°.6.

"The above comparisons, even although for a short period, appear to me pretty conclusive as to the place which Undercliff ought to hold amongst the milder climates of England*.

• I here subjoin one of the tables from which the statements in the text have been drawn:—

Mean temperature at 8 a.m., during the winters 1827-8, 1828-9.

	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	Mean.
Penzance	500.3	490.6	420.6	450.1	42 0,6	46 0.
Undercliff	490.8	490.5	40°.5	430.6	430.8	450.3
Gosport	460.9	460.5	380.6	420.6	430.3	440.
Chichester	440.8	450.2	370.5	400.3	410.8	42 0.
Boston (Lincoln.)	430.4	44o.	350.9	380.7	420.3	40 0.8

"With respect to the most decisive evidence of all, in a medical point of view, I mean the effects of the climate on disease, my experience is very limited; but as far as it goes it is favourable, more especially in pulmonary disease. And indeed when we consider the numerous local advantages of Undercliff, already detailed, the thermometrical results just stated, and take into account the still more conclusive evidence furnished by the condition of the exotic plants which grow there, we must, I think, admit that Undercliff is one of the warmest climates in our island (if not the very warmest), and most eligible for a large class of our delicate invalids.

"I have certainly seen nothing along the South coast
that will bear a comparison with it; and Torquay is,
I apprehend, the only place on the South-West coast,
which will do so. But much more extended observations than we at present possess, for either of these
places, are required, to determine their comparative
merits.

"The character of the two climates will, I believe, be found essentially different. With a temperature nearly the same, the climate of Torquay will be found softer, but more humid and relaxing; while that of Undercliff will prove drier, somewhat sharper, and more bracing. These different qualities of the two places, render them respectively suitable in different diseases, in different forms of the same disease, and in constitutions of a different character.

"With all its natural advantages, the accommodations

" at Undercliff are at present so few, as to render the benefits of the place almost nugatory, except to a very limited number of invalids. Numerous spots, however, present themselves, along this beautiful district, admirably suited for the residences of delicate invalids. On these, detached houses might be built; and if the protection of a garden-wall and a few trees, where these do not already exist, were added, the natural advantages of the place would be increased, and a sheltered walk secured during the most stormy weather.

"The invalid, in place of being cooped up in a town, " or close village, would thus have the incalculable " benefit of constantly breathing the air of a finely-* sheltered country; the whole range of which would " be open to him when the days were fine, while his " garden would allow him to take more limited exercise " in less favourable weather. If any thing in the form " of a town is attempted at Undercliff, the beauty of " the place, as well as the advantages as a residence for " invalids, will be greatly diminished. If, on the other " hand, the plan which I have suggested (and to which " the place lends itself in a remarkable manner), of build-" ing single houses, each surrounded with its garden, is " judiciously adopted and the houses, erected with due " regard to the wants of delicate invalids, Undercliff " bids fair to exceed all other winter residences in this " country, and the Isle of Wight will have added to its " title of the Garden of England, that of the British " Madeira.

"We have now to consider the advantages of this island as a summer residence for the invalid. The "Undercliff itself affords a mild summer climate; but "as a change of air and scene are generally bene- ficial to the invalid, the summer months may be better passed by many in still cooler situations in other parts of the island.

"Niton, situated at the Western extremity, but with" out the limits of the Undercliff, affords a cool summer
" residence. It has also the advantage of being in the
" vicinity of some of the finest scenery on the island,
" and at no great distance from the celebrated Sand Rock
" Spring.

"Cowes is likewise a good summer residence. The accommodations for sea bathing are very commodious, and it is also conveniently situated for exercise on the water.

"The little village of Sandown, on the Eastern shore, "forms a retired and pleasant summer residence, and is "well situated for sea bathing, having a fine sandy beach. Shanklin, in the same neighbourhood, is a "favourite summer retreat, and one of the prettiest places in the island. This little village is, indeed, so well protected from winds, from almost every quarter, that it forms a mild winter climate, although certainly much inferior in this respect to Undercliff. But of all "the situations in the island, Ryde appears to me to deserve a preference as a summer residence. It stands on the slope of a dry, gravelly hill, facing the North, immediately opposite Portsmouth; and from the fine

" open manner in which part of it is built, many of the " houses having gardens attached to them, it possesses " most of the advantages of a country residence, toge-"ther with those of a sea bathing place. The neigh-" bourhood, also, is very beautiful, and favourable for " exercise. As a summer residence, therefore, the Isle " of Wight presents a considerable variety of healthy "and beautiful sites, suited to the wants of a large " proportion of valetudinarians; and the invalid, who " has wintered at Undercliff, and means to return there " the succeeding season, may pass the summer conveni-" ently and agreeably at some of these places. The " selection should be regulated according to the circum-" stances of the case, or the choice of the individual. " The more delicate invalids would require to return to " Undercliff in September."

The whole of the scenery of the Undercliff is noble, picturesque, and grand. The various land slips are worthy a visitor's attention. The effect is produced by the silent and quiet settlement of the earth, from the cliff towards the water, which doubtless has caused, in the lapse of centuries, the peculiar appearance of the Undercliff. Land slips generally occur about once in seven years. The phenomenon is accounted for by the freezing of the subterraneous water, with which the soil abounds, and its expansion, acting with irresistible force on the soil, forces the rock or earth from its position, and, thus set free, it moves on the descent, till its further progress is arrested by some insurmountable obstacle. An observation of the top of the cliff from

Niton to Cripple Path, will confirm this remark. Having in general terms described the Undercliff, and the land slips, the various features of the scenery will be particularized as they occur. After passing Westcliff, about a quarter of a mile brings the visitor to the

SAND ROCK HOTEL,

one of the most beautifully-situated hotels in England, kept by Mr. Kent. The hotel is so happily placed as to afford the enjoyment of the boldest Undercliff prospects, and an extent of marine view not to be surpassed along the whole range of this singular tract of land. The house commands a delightful sea prospect on three sides; and as it faces the most Southern angle of the island, which projects into the Channel, it is singularly adapted for the enjoyment of the pure sea breeze. Every comfort and every attention await the visitor, while the attractive scenery in the neighbourhood renders it an eligible centre from whence to explore the surrounding objects of interest.

From Sand Rock the visitor can walk to the celebrated Chalybeate Spring, and Black Gang Chine. The first object in this excursion is Mount Cleeves, a singular-built house, of a pyramidal form. Proceeding onwards, we pass the celebrated land slip of 1799, and arrive at

THE SAND ROCK SPRING.

This spring was discovered by Mr. Waterworth, a surgeon of Newport, in the year 1808; it is situated

about a mile and a half from Niton, and nearly the same distance from Chale, 500 feet from the shore, and about 130 feet above the level of the sea. Mr. Waterworth has established a dispensary on the spot, for the distribution of the water, and such medicines as circumstances may require. The Sand Rock Hotel, and several lodging houses in the vicinity, afford accommodation to invalids desirous of trying its efficacy. The beautifully-cultivated scenery of the Undercliff is here succeeded by a tract of coast extending to the Needles and Alum Bay, uncultivated, barren, and destitute of timber. Nature is here seen in her wildest garb, presenting to the eye only large masses of broken rocks, bold and rugged cliffs, and precipices terminated by the ocean. Mr. Waterworth, in a letter addressed to the medical profession on the nature and properties of this spring, says, "The aluminous chalybeate water, on " examination, not only by the taste (which is intensely " chalybeate), but also by the application of chemical " tests, was found, by the accurate analysis of it by o the late scientific and much-lamented chemist, Dr. " Marcet, and whose account of it is published in the " first volume of the Transactions of the Geological " Society of London, to contain sulphat of iron and " sulphat of alumine, substances which, though rarely " met with in combination with water, yet exist in this " in such large proportions as to give it a very dis-" tinguishing character.

" As I have not been able to learn that any mineral water of the same class has hitherto been discovered

" in Europe, which possesses such powerful properties " as the Sand Rock spring, I shall take the liberty of " transcribing, in his own words, the result of Dr. " Marcet's experiments on it, from which it appears, " that every pint, or sixteen-ounce measure of the						
" water, contains the following ingredients, viz.:-						
" Of carbonic acid gas, three-tenths of a cubic inch.						
"Sulphat of iron, in the state of crystallized green sulphat 41 grs. 4						
"Sulphat of Alumine, a quantity of which, if brought to the state of crystallized alum, would amount to . 31						
"Sulphat of lime, dried at 160° 10						
"Sulphat of magnesia, or Epsom salts crystallized 3 6						
"Sulphat of soda, or Glauber salt crystallized 16 0						
" Muriat of soda, or common salt crystallized 4 0						
"Silica						
107 4						

About half a mile from hence we arrive at the top of

BLACK GANG CHINE.

The size of this chasm, its tremendous shelving rocks, its harren aspect, having no shrub or tree near it, cannot fail to impress the mind with unpleasant feelings, while contemplating the dreary aspect it presents. The sides of the chasm are near 500 feet in height, shelving down to the shore; these terminate in an overhanging precipice, upwards of 40 feet high, over which a small stream, from the summit of the chine, falls, and finds its way into the bay beneath. The descent is easy to the shore, where the chine appears in all its barren ruggedness. The view from the summit comprises the

whole of the coast to the Needles, with the Dorsetshire coast in the distance. Returning along the shore we pass the Rocken End, which consists of immense masses of the rock, and these extend a considerable distance into the sea, forming Rocken End Race. From the top of the chine to the village of Chale is half a mile, and visitors going to the West may join their carriages there, having sent them forward from the hotel. There is no carriage-road to the Chine.

Following the shore, a foot-path, through Knowles Farm, leads back to the Sand Rock hotel. In the vicinity of the hotel are two or three good houses, which are let during the summer to visitors.

Leaving the hotel, we pursue our route along the Undercliff, passing, on our right, the beautiful cottage of James Vine, Esq. celebrated for its unique specimen of rock gardening, situated near Puckaster, where Charles II. landed, as mentioned in the description of Niton. Farther on is Beauchamp, a small villa on the left, the property of Mrs. Bennet, of Northcourt, in the village of Shorwell. Opposite stands the Orchard, the summer retreat of General Sir Willoughby Gordon. On passing the Orchard, Cripple path leads, by a tolerably easy ascent, to the top of the cliff; the view of the villas and grounds from this elevation are beautiful. and bounded by the sea. To see the beauties of this part of the island, it would be advisable to pursue the carriage-road, returning by the foot-path along the top of the cliff, and afterwards follow the windings of the shore on foot. As this mode would occupy too much time.

perhaps, for most tourists, the general route will be described; but a view of great beauty will be lost, unless the ascent to the top of the cliff is effected.

In the summer of 1831, a girl, from Bonchurch, walking along the top of the cliff to Niton, was, by a sudden gust of wind, blown over, in the immediate neighbourhood of Mirables. Fortunately she alighted among some underwood, and miraculously escaped, without even a bruise; she pursued her walk to Niton, and was the first to recount the adventure.

The next villa is Mirables, the seat of Mrs. Arnold. The whole of the villas under the cliff enjoy fine views of the British Channel, and the grounds are laid out with considerable taste and judgment. Passing Mirables, and on the right of the road, near the shore, is Old Park, the seat of Thomas Haddon, Esq. The villa is in a sheltered situation; its dairy, with the fountain in its centre, is worthy inspection; the grounds are well laid out, and some magnificent masses of rock ornament the lawn. Near the shore, a large bathing house has been erected, possessing every comfort. From hence, the road is wild and open, till we arrive at

SAINT LAWRENCE,

which is a small straggling village, situated in a most romantic spot. The smallest parochial church in the island, and, with one exception, in Great Britain, is St. Lawrence. The church is barely six feet to the eaves, and is only twenty feet long by twelve feet wide. During his residence at Appuldercombe, or at his neighbouring marine villa, Lord Yarborough regularly attends divine service. The beautiful marine villa of Lord Yarborough was erected by the late Sir Richard Worsley, and diseplays considerable classic taste. The entrance gateway formerly stood at Hampton Court, and was designed by Inigo Jones. The shore is easily accessible to the pedestrian, where a curious cavern on the beach, called Fox's Hole, is worthy a visit. A mile hence we reach

STEEPHILL,

consisting of a few cottages. This hamlet was formerly celebrated for the marine cottage of the late Earl of Dysart; it has been recently purchased by John Hambrough, Esq., who levelled it to the ground, and has erected on its site one of the most picturesque residences in the island. The structure is built in the Gothic style, and the approach is by an elegant Gothic archway, corresponding with the castle. The Keep is a beautiful object viewed from the ocean, or any part of the surrounding country, rising to a considerable elevation, amidst trees of majestic growth and varied foliage. There is a cave in the cliff, easily accessible, from which the view of the shore is exceedingly beautiful. A ramble by the water will exhibit the surrounding scenery, especially the Undercliff, to great advantage. About three quarters of a mile farther, is

VENTNOR,

situated most delightfully, a short distance from the shore. Ventnor Hotel, kept by Mr. John Fisher, is a new building, commanding fine marine views, and possessing comfortable accommodations. There is also

another house, called the Crab and Lobster, of which Mr. Barnabas Wild is the landlord; the house has been enlarged, and is most beautifully situated. These are the only inns between Shanklin and the Sand Rock Hotel and Niton. A mill stands on the shore, at Ventnor Cove, a short distance from the inns, which, with the surrounding scenery, demands the attention of the Several houses are erecting here, and the beauty of the situation points it out as an eligible site for building. This part of the Undercliff is rapidly increasing in population, and in a few years will probably be of considerable importance. Three quarters of a mile brings us to St. Boniface, a charming villa, the property of Charles Popham Hill, Esq. It is built with freestone, and thatched, and surrounded by majestic trees. Vegetation thrives here with the utmost luxuriance. The down of Boniface, at its back, shelters it from the North, and thick plantations shade it from the South. Passing St. Boniface, we arrive at

BONCHURCH,

the name of which seems to be an abbreviation of the church of St. Boniface. The cottages which compose this place are grouped in a most picturesque manner. The village is surrounded with trees of luxuriant foliage, interspersed with evergreens. A stream of pure water runs through the village, and, although small, contributes materially to complete the charms of this enchanting spot. In this village Admiral Hobson was born. The church is supposed to have been built soon after the general survey at the Conquest. The archi-

tecture is evidently Norman. It is of small dimensions, but delightfully situated, on a little eminence overlooking the ocean. The downs of St. Boniface now sweep to the left, and present a new scene. Dunnose Point is the first headland to the right, while the downs of Shanklin seem to join those of St. Boniface, and form a perfect amphitheatre. The view from the Pulpit Rock is peculiarly beautiful.

On the right, as we proceed, is East Dean, the seat of W. H. Surman, Esq. The furniture of this elegant villa, and the fitting up of the interior, is of the age and style of Elizabeth. In ascending the road, the tourist should stop to view the beautiful appearance of the scenery around him; this point, perhaps, presents one of the most picturesque situations for viewing the Undercliff: the immense masses of rock-the admired confusion in which they lie strewed—the beautiful foliage of the trees-the wide spreading ocean-the height of the downs-all unite in presenting a scene of no common interest. Proceeding along the road, on the right, we pass the head of Luccombe Chine. The descent to Luccombe Chine is by a winding path. The cavity is by no means so deep or terrific as Black Gang Chine, being variegated with trees and shrubs, and highly cultivated.

From Bonchurch to Shanklin, the scenery is particularly deserving attention; the views from the carriageroad are the most beautiful and most extensive of any in the island. The foot-path, through the fields and along the shore, presents, in a walk of three miles, objects.

of considerable interest to the lovers of nature, who have inclination and leisure to make the excursion. Passing through the yard of Bonchurch Farm, on leaving that village, and crossing a few fields, the pedestrian obtains a striking view of a land slip, which occurred about the same period with that noticed at the Western extremity of the Undercliff. Following the foot-path through this wild scenery for half a mile, majestic fragments of rocks are observed, scattered in every direction, and interspersed with trees and shrubs. To examine every interesting feature of this romantic spot would amply repay the labour. Passing East End, the land slips of 1810 and 1818 show the wild disorder which they have caused; it is conjectured eighty acres of ground were swept away by their united From hence we reach

LUCCOMBE CHINE,

sometimes called Bowl Hoop; passing this romantic spot, with a fine view of Sandown Bay and the Culver Cliffs, ascending the winding path along this picturesque shore, and crossing two or three fields, we arrive at

SHANKLIN.

To return to the other route, after inspecting Luccombe Chine, and regaining the carriage, pursuing the road to Shanklin, at the top of the hill, a view of majestic beauty presents itself, which, to be fully enjoyed, ought to be surveyed from the summit of the down, round the side of which the road winds, over the steep ascent of

the promontory of Dunnose; yet the road seems only to skirt the foot of the mountain eminence of Wroxall, and Shanklin Downs. On the right, the beautiful bay of Sandown presents itself, with the sea rolling in majestic grandeur on the pebbly beach, from Dunnose to the extremity of the Culver Cliffs, including Luccombe and Shanklin chines. Beyond is seen the coast of Sussex, as far as the white cliffs of Brighton, and The high land of Hampshire, with Beachy Head. Portsdown Hill and Nelson's Pillar, appears over the bay between Bembridge and Brading Downs; the ridge of high lands stretches across the island as far as the eye can reach. The church and village of Shanklin are situated below, while the rich and beautifully-cultivated vale of Newchurch is spread in all its luxuriance, like a map, beneath, extending with the diversity of hill and dale, interspersed with timber, villas, churches, and villages, to Cowes. This magnificent view may vie with any in the island, and forms a striking contrast to the romantic scenery of the Undercliff, or the savage grandeur of the cliffs and downs forming the Western extremity of the island. It forms a prospect of perfect terrestrial beauty. Descending the hill, we arrive at Shanklin. The little church stands on the left of the road; "it is properly a chapel annexed to the rectory of " Bonchurch: it was formerly taken out of the parish " of Brading, where the inhabitants still bury their dead; " and a pension of ten shillings is paid annually from " the chapel, to the rector of Brading, as an acknow-" ledgment to the mother church. The chapel was

- " built by one of the Lisles, and endowed with fifty
- " acres of land, together with the tithes of many tenants
- " of the manor. As to parochial assessments, it is considered a separate parish*."

The manor farm-house is a large substantial building, standing near the church. In the village there are several picturesque houses; many of them are let, during the summer months, to visitors. Shanklin Hotel, kept by Mr. Williams, is a comfortable establishment, and the tourist is sure to meet with civility and attention.

Crossing a field or two, we arrive at the pathway leading down the chine, which is one of those fissures so common on this coast of the island. The mouth of the chine, towards the sea, appears to have been rent by some sudden convulsion of nature, and its effects extend full a quarter of a mile towards the village, where its further progress was probably stopped by the solidity of the rock. A flight of steps has been made in the North side of the chine, to afford access to the shore. In order to increase the pleasure of the tourists, the Rev. W. White has recently made a carriage-road to the beach, passing down the chine, by which means a pleasant drive along the shore to Sandown is obtained. The Chine Inn is beautifully situated in this romantic glen, and two or three houses are built among the trees and shrubs that adorn its side, displaying a beautiful

 Sir Richard Worsley's History of the Isle of Wight. In the Domesday Book it is called Sencliz. In Cardinal Beaufort's time, St. John of Sentling. and picturesque scene. From the shore, the chine appears to advantage. The perpendicular height is about 280 feet, and its width at the top about 300 feet. A fisherman, who lives in a small cottage at the foot of the cliff, has cut a path in the opposite side of it, by which we ascend to the summit, and view the head of the chine, where a trifling stream from the downs finds its way into the chine, and thence into the ocean. The barren and gloomy appearance of this side of the chine forms a strong contrast to the foliage of the trees and shrubs of the opposite side, with its inn and cottages. The beach here has a fine sandy bottom, entirely free from rocks and stones, and admirably adapted for bathing. To the right, a hill, called the Horse-Lodge. projects into the sea, forming the Southern extremity of Sandown Bay, behind which appears the Point of Dunnose. On the left, the bold sweep of the bay is bounded by the Culver Cliffs; near which, Sandown Fort and Wilks's Cottage appear prominent objects.

Sir Richard Worsley, in noticing this chine, has the following note:—"The term chine is applied to the back bone of an animal, both in the manège and culinary language, which forms the highest ridge of the body. Echine, in the French, is used in the same sense; and Boyer has the word chinfreneau for a great cut, or slash. Hence the word chine might be thought peculiarly expressive of a high ridge of land cleft abruptly down; and the several parts of the Southern coast, denominated chines, all correspond with this description. A chine also appears to signify the same

"as a chasm, and both to be derived from the Greek word Xanu, hisco, or dehisco; that is, to cleave assunder, so as to form a chasm, or chine. It is well known that the X in the Greek alphabet is always expressed in English by ch, and that it is pronounced by the modern Greeks, as our ch, in church, charity, &c. and perhaps it was so pronounced by the ancients."

Pursuing the route, and passing through the small village of Lake, which consists of a few houses, we arrive

SANDOWN,

or, as it was originally called, Sandham. On the left of the road are some barracks, which are now converted into dwellings. Near the fort is the once-celebrated cottage of John Wilkes, Esq. Here did this celebrated politician, amid his military neighbours, and the surrounding romantic scenery, spend the evening of his days. Sandown Fort is about two miles from Shanklin: it commands the bay from which it derives its name, and is a low square building, flanked by four bastions, and encompassed by a ditch. A small garrison is kept in it. This fort commands the only part of the coast of the island where an enemy could land. A castle was built near this by Henry VIII., and its establishment in that monarch's reign was, a captain, at 4s. per day; an under captain, at 2s.; thirteen soldiers, at 6d. per day each; one porter, at 8d.; one master gunner, at 8d.; and seven

^{*} Page 202.

other gunners, at 6d. per day. Fee £.363 6s. 8d. It was erected to defend the only accessible place of debarkation on the coast from the hostile visits the island had in this and the preceding reign been so often subjected to; but, from the encroachments of the sea, it was deemed necessary, in the time of Charles I. to remove the old structure, and with the materials to construct the present building. The arms of Richard Weston, Earl of Portland, are carved in the panels of the chimney-piece in the drawing-room, with the supporters, and collar of the Garter, and implements of war. From hence to Brading is two miles, through which we proceed, along the route already described, to Ryde.

EXCURSIONS

FROM RYDE TO APPULDERCOMBE, RETURNING THROUGH NEWCHURCH.

Having procured a ticket to view Appuldercombe House, which can be obtained with the greatest facility, on application to Thomas Sewell, Esq. of Newport, the route recommended is through Brading and Shanklin to Bonchurch, and after passing St. Boniface, take the first turn to the right;—thus affording the admirers of this romantic island an opportunity of traversing it by roads in nearly an opposite direction to those we have already noticed The road on the right leads, through the little hamlet of Wroxall, which has nothing particular to interest the traveller, to

APPULDERCOMBE,

which is seven miles South of Newport, and fourteen from Ryde, through Shanklin. This splendid mansion

is the residence of Lord Yarborough, and displays much magnificence and classical taste. The principal approach is by way of Godshill, through a fine gateway, in the form of a triumphal arch, by which the park is entered; its surface is diversified, and noble trees are disposed in picturesque groupes. On two sides it is bounded by lofty downs. On the slope of the downs, which form the park to the West, stands the stately mansion, which is large and beautiful; it is built of freestone, and has four regular fronts, of the Corinthian order, the principal of which is adorned with two wings, and has a lawn before it. The house was begun in 1710, by Sir Robert Worsley, and finished by his successor, Sir Richard Worsley, who, during his travels in 1785, 1786, and 1787, through Italy, Spain, Greece, Egypt, Asia Minor, and Tartary, formed the beautiful collection of antiques with which this mansion is adorned. paintings, sculptures, medals, and other valuable rarities, deserve a close inspection; nothing spurious, or like the refuse of other collections, appears in this admirable selection. Two very sumptuous volumes, descriptive of them, in Italian and English, with engravings, were printed by Sir Richard Worsley, under the title of Museum Worsleianum. The noble owner is making considerable alterations in the interior of the mansion, which will be entirely re-modelled. The park is well stocked with deer; the soil is very rich, and affords excellent pasturage; beeches of uncommon magnitude, interspersed with venerable oaks, form the back-ground above the house; the different eminences command most extensive and grand prospects. On the East is seen

St. Helens' roads, Spithead, and Portsmouth; on the West, the cliffs at Freshwater, the Dorsetshire coast, and the Isle of Portland; on the North, is a view of the New Forest, and the Solent; on the South, is the British Channel. On the summit of the park is an obelisk, of Cornish granite, near 70 feet in height, erected to the memory of Sir Richard Worsley;—a little beyond is a telegraph.

At Appuldercombe there was formerly a cell of Benedictine monks. It was made subordinate to the abbey of St. Mary de Montsburg, in Normandy, by Richard de Redvers, founder of that abbey, as appears by a charter of confirmation, in which these lands are described as given to the abbey of Montsburg, by that family. That convent had a prior and two monks here. in charge of the profits of their lands, which were Appuldercombe, Sandford, and Week. King Henry IV., during the war with France, gave it to the abbess and nuns of the minories of the order of St. Clare, without Aldgate, London, who afterwards obtained a grant from the abbey, of all their right and title to those lands. Isabella de Fortibus showed so much regard to the convent of her ancestor's foundation, that, in her charter to the town of Newport, she exempted the prior of Appuldercombe from the toll and petty customs granted to that borough. Edward III., apprehending a descent of the French on this island, ordered the Bishop of Winchester to remove the priors and monks belonging to the French monasteries, from thence to Hide Abbey, near Winchester; and it appears that a prior and two

monks were sent from Appuldercombe. The old Priory House was situated a small distance from the present It underwent a thorough repair in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and was taken down by Sir Robert Worsley, about the period of the erection of the present building. Sir Robert Worsley says, "This place took " its name from its situation, for in the old Armoric " language, Pul is a bottom, or a ditch, or a pool, and " Dur is water. The Armoric language is that of the " Bretons in France, and agrees much with the Cornish; " it was probably the language of the old inhabitants of " this island. The Saxons added Combe, which in " their language signifies a bottom. I thought fit to " leave this memorandum to posterity, and refer them " to Lhuyd's Dictionary. In the oldest court roll I " have, which was the sixteenth year of King Henry " VI., I find it entered Appuldurcombe, as above, and " likewise in some of the old ones since, but they often " varyed in the spelling of it, not knowing from whence " it was derived." Extracted from an old plate of the ancient mansion, signed "Robert Worsley, 1720."

Leaving this beautiful demesne, we proceed, on our return, through the village of

GODSHILL.

This is one of the ancient parishes that existed before the compilation of Domesday Book, and one of the six churches given by William Fitz-Osborn to the Abbey of Lyra. The church, which is of Saxon architecture, stands on a steep hill; in its tower are five bells and a clock: it contains many curious monuments, and some modern ones to the memory of the Worsleys: it is a vicarage, in the gift of Queen's College, Oxford, and annexed to the rectory of Niton. On the 19th of January, 1778, the church was struck by lightning, which did considerable injury, and in 1789 two of the gable ends fell down, supposed to have been weakened by that circumstance. The village is very picturesque; the cottages are clean and neat, with gardens attached. A grammar-school was founded and endowed by Sir Richard Worsley, in 1614; besides which, there is a large free school. This village was the birth-place of the Rev. Henry Cole, D.D., LL.D., Dean of St. Paul's. &c. a time-serving priest, who changed from Protestantism to Catholicism, as interest dictated. The manor of Godshill also belonged to the abbey of Lyra, which, as it was the richest at home, was the most rapacious of all Norman monasteries. It reverted to the Crown by Henry VIII., who gave it to his favourite abbey, and palace of Sheen, in Surrey, together with the priory of Carisbrooke, and the manor of Freshwater. Proceeding onwards, we arrive at

NEWCHURCH,

nearly in the centre of the parish of that name, and the parish church of the town of Ryde, from which it is distant about seven miles. The church stands on a rising ground, and commands extensive views; it is old, tolerably large, and built in the form of a cross. There are three bells in the tower; it is one of the six given by William Fitz-Osborn to the Abbey of Lyra, in Normandy. The living is in the gift of the Bishop of Bristol. About a mile hence we pass the site of Knighton House, the foundation of this once extensive mansion being all that remains to speak of "its whereabout." From hence, the road conducts, over Ashey Down, to Ryde.

FROM COWES TO NEWPORT, APPULDER-COMBE, AND NITON.

The route from Cowes to Newport has been already described. Leaving Newport, we pass through the hamlet of Shide, and, pursuing the route, pass Standen. In the reign of Henry VII., this place was the residence of Lady Cecilia, daughter of Edward IV., and sister of the reigning queen. The lady Cecilia died here, and was buried at Quarr Abbey. Attached to the estate, on the summit of St. George's Down, was an ancient bowling green, the resort of the Governor and the gentry of the island, who used to meet together twice a week. A turn to the left, leads to

THE VILLAGE OF ARRETON,

which consists of a long straggling street. The church was one of those given to the Abbey of Lyra, by William Fitz-Osborn; and, in the reign of Henry I., when Baldwin de Redvers endowed the Abbey of Quarr, he either gave the manor of Arreton, or procured it for his new foundation, to which it belonged till the abbey was dissolved. The church is an ancient edifice, and contains

some handsome monuments of the Holmes family, that to Sir Leonard Worsley Holmes is peculiarly worthy of attention; the sculptor, Mr. Haskoll, is a native of the Island, and Canova's pupils would not disdain to rank him as their equal. Elizabeth Wallbridge, eulogized by the Rev. Leigh Richmond, as "the Dairyman's " Daughter," was born in this village, and lies interred in the church-vard. The view of the village, and vale of Arreton, from Arreton Down, is highly picturesque, and commands a variety of distant objects, equally beautiful. Some Roman armour has been discovered on the Down, which is the site of two large barrows. Stickworth, the retired villa of Robert Bell, Esq. is in the neighbourhood of Arreton. From this village, a good road leads to Lake, Shanklin, and the Undercliff. Pursuing the direct road to Appuldercombe, we avoid the turn leading to Arreton, and pass, on our right hand,

PIDFORD,

a pleasantly-situated mansion, the residence of the Rev. T. Bowerman. From hence we arrive at Rookley, a small hamlet; at its entrance, on the left, stands a pretty cottage, the residence of Miss Leach. Following the direct road, we pass over Black Down, a sterile heath, to Niton, and the Sand Rock Hotel. Turning to the left, we pass through Godshill; and, after viewing Appuldercombe, pass through the little village of

WHITWELL.

The church is properly a chapel, belonging to Godshill; but, on account of the separate parochial duties, is deemed a distinct parish. The church consisted originally of two chapels, the chapel of the blessed Virgin Mary of Whitwell, and the chapel of St. Radegund, which latter is now the chancel of the church; it was built and endowed by De Estur, Lord of Gatcombe. From Whitwell there is a good road to Niton and the Undercliff. From Niton, through Chale and Kingston, to Newport and Cowes. Leaving Niton we proceed through Chale and Kingston, where, turning to the left, we pass

BILLINGHAM.

the seat of the Rev. James Worsley. About two miles hence, on our right, is

GATCOMBE,

the seat of Alexander Campbell, Esq. The park contains some fine trees, of luxuriant growth. The church is an ancient edifice. "In the North side of the chancel "there is the figure of a man in full proportion, carved in "wood, which is called the old wooden saint, but must "have been probably a representation of one of the "family of the Lisles." Pursuing our road, we pass under the ruins of Carisbrooke Castle, and proceeding through the New Village, return to Newport, and thence to Cowes.

FROM RYDE OR COWES, THROUGH NEWPORT, TO CALBOURNE, THORLEY, AND YARMOUTH,

The route from Ryde and Cowes to Newport has been already fully detailed; leaving Newport, we ascend the village of Carisbrooke, and, proceeding over Alvington Down, about four miles on the road, pass

SWAINSTONE,

on our right. This delightful residence is the property of Sir Richard Simeon, Bart. M.P. and is situated in a fertile valley, luxuriantly wooded, and commanding fine views of the Solent. It is erected on the site of an ancient palace of the Bishops of Winchester. Two miles hence, we reach

CALBOURNE,

a small village, at the foot of the Brixton Downs. The church is ancient, and contains some vestiges of Norman architecture. Adjoining the village is the pleasantly-situated mansion of

WESTOVER,

the seat of Lady Holmes. The house commands some fine views to the North-West, and the grounds are laid out with much judgment. From hence we pass the inconsiderable village of

THORLEY,

which is pleasantly surrounded by timber. The church is a small building, without either steeple or tower; it was erected by Amicia, Countess of Devon, who gave it to the priory of Christchurch, in Hampshire, in which convent it remained till its dissolution. About a mile farther, we reach Yarmouth, which has been already described; from hence we can return through Shalfleet to Newport, and thence proceed to Cowes, or Ryde. If an excursion to the Needles is desired, then the route from Yarmouth through Freshwater can be followed.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

ON THE TOUR ROUND THE ISLAND.

The tour round the island cannot be accomplished with comfort under three days, in consequence of the state of the roads. It is to be hoped that improvements will speedily take place, and every part of the island be rendered easily accessible; by so doing, considerable advantage would speedily be derived by all parties interested. The labour of the horse would be decreased, the wear and tear of carriages lessened, and visitors, who had once contemplated the beauties of the Back of the island, be tempted again and again to revisit those romantic scenes.

Starting from Comes, through Newport and Yarmouth, to the Needles' Light House, the Needles' Hotel, at Alum Bay, or the Albion Hotel, Freshwater Gate, will be the best quarters for the night. From thence it will be necessary to reach Shanklin the next evening; and return to Cowes the following day.

From Ryde, through Newport, the George at Yarmouth, the Needles' Hotel, Alum Bay, or the Albion Hotel, Freshwater Gate, present eligible accommodations. The succeeding evening may be spent at Sand Rock Hotel, or Ventnor; and the third will bring the tourists to Ryde, or Newport.

The other excursions can be taken as leisure or inclination may permit.

VOYAGE ROUND THE ISLAND.

This is a delightful excursion, and enables the voyager to view in a few hours the whole coast of the island, and also that of Hampshire, with part of Dorsetshire.

A steam-boat from Portsmouth, leaves Ryde Pier about half-past nine in the morning, generally once a week during the summer months, and usually performs the voyage in about eight hours; it has been done in seven hours and twenty minutes. The fare is five shillings each individual, and refreshments can be procured on board. Proceeding to the Eastward, we pass Appley, St. John's, and St. Clare's, with their woods extending to the water's edge. Farther on is Nettlestone, or Sea View, the Priory, and at the bottom of the hill is a good view of Old Church sea-mark; crossing the entrance of Brading Haven to Bembridge there is a distant view of the vale from Brading to Appuldercombe. Passing the Bembridge Ledge, a dangerous reef, where the Henry Addington was lost, we next come to the Eastern extremity of the island, Foreland Point, and the Culver cliffs, which are lofty, and appear white and grev: -skirting Sandown Bay, the Fort, the Cottage, and Shanklin Chine, are successively passed.

The next object is Dunnose, a point of rocky land to the Southward of Luccombe Chine. The shore is thickly strewn with iron ore and copperas. The ascent, from low-water mark to the top of the downs, is near seven hundred feet; they appear to much advantage from the water. On account of the number of rocks which stretch into the sea, the coast is dangerous for ships of burthen. The coast to Steephill is rugged;—the Undercliff forms a charming object at this period of the voyage. We next pass Ventnor Cove and Mill. St. Lawrence, Old Park, Mirables, the Orchard, Puckaster.

&c. are passed in succession, tracing the shore, till we come to the rocks terminating the range of Undercliff near Niton, where the Sand Rock Hotel forms a prominent feature on the shore. A little farther to the West we arrive at the Southernmost point of the island, known by the name of St. Catherine's, and Rocken End Race. The downs, which terminate the range of Undercliff. are higher than any others. Having rounded the point of Rocken End, a new scene presents itself, in Black Gang Chine. Little of novelty is displayed from hence to Freshwater. Passing Atherfield Point, and Compton Chine, we enter Brixton Bay, where, with a South-West wind, the sea flows in with tremendous fury. Jackman's Chine is the principal one in this bay, and leads to Brixton village. Brook Chine is the next object. after which we enter Freshwater Bay. From the Cave to the Main Bench, many chasms in the cliffs are seen, with numberless caves and recesses along the beach. Passing the magnificent and stupendous cliffs of Freshwater, we enter Scratchell's Bay; and proceeding by the Needles. enter Alum Bay, having a fine view of Christchurch Bay. Pursuing our course through Totland and Colwell Bays, we pass Hurst Castle, and the Lighthouses. Hurst Castle was built by Henry VIII., for the defenceof the passage between the coast of Hampshire and the Needles. King Charles I., upon being removed from Carisbrooke Castle, was confined here till he was carried to London by General Harrison, where shortly after he was beheaded. The Shingles here render navigation dangerous.

Rounding the point, we enter Yarmouth roads; the town appears to great advantage from the water; on the opposite shore is Lymington. Skirting the coast, which has few points of interest about it for some miles, we pass Newtown Creek, Thorness Bay, Gurnet Bay, and approach Cowes, which has a lovely appearance, as the Medina river opens to the view, with East Cowes Castle on the opposite side; proceeding onwards, we arrive at Norris Castle, with its park-like grounds extending to The next object is Osborne House; then King's Quay, with its woody screen, and the creek. We now pass the entrance of Wotton Creek, and, in succession, Fish House, - Binstead, - the seat of John Fleming, Esq. with its picturesque bathing cottage on the shore,-Ryde House, the villas of Earl Spencer and the Duke of Buckingham, and land at Ryde Pier. Town and Pier, as we approach, are the most attractive objects amidst the surrounding lovely scenery, which everywhere appears rich in cultivation, and beautifully clothed with wood, forming a striking contrast to the less fertile scenery of the Western part of the island.

In this description, we have confined our notice to the enumeration of the objects and places, as the vessel glides along; for it would have been tedious to the reader, to find again an account of villages, coasts, or bays, of which we have already particularized every beauty deserving of portraiture. They have been described with impartiality; and we shall estimate those amongst our future days of happiness, when we may again revisit such lovely scenery.

TOURS.

COWES TO NEWPORT.

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FR	M	NE	wP	ORT				
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Shalfleet .	•	•					1 —	7
Yarmouth								
Freshwater		•	•				3 —	14
Alum Bay								
Freshwater G	ate						3 —	20
Brooke							41/2	24 <u>}</u>
Mottistone	. •						2 —	26]

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									MILES.	
	Brixton				•		•	•	$2 - 28\frac{1}{2}$	
	Shorwell	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	$2 - 30\frac{1}{2}$	
	Kingstone		•	•	•	•	•	•	$1\frac{1}{2}$ — 32	
	Chale .			•	•				2 - 34	
	Niton			•					$2\frac{1}{2}$ — $36\frac{1}{2}$	
	Sand Rock	H	ote	l					$\frac{1}{2}$ — 37	
	St. Lawren	nce						•	3 40	
	Steephill		••						1 — 41	
	Ventnor								1 - 42	
	Bonchurch	ı	•					•	1 — 43	
	Luccombe									
•	Shanklin							•	2 — 46	
	Lake .			•					2 - 48	
	Sandown									
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Sandown .						2 6
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	Shanklin								$2 - 14\frac{1}{2}$

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Appuldero								
Whitwell								2 - 14
Niton								2 - 16
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To Chale .								
Gatcombe								
Newport	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	$3 - 9\frac{1}{2}$
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Thorley								4 — 5
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Yarmouth To Shide .	'RO		NEV	 wpo	ORT	•		4 — 9 2 — 11 1 2 — 3

RATES OF PASSAGE.

THE several rates for passengers, carriages and horses, according to Act of Parliament, and as regulated by the Justices, at the sessions held at Winchester, on the 19th day of July, 1825.

Prices to be taken for passengers, carriages, and horses, to and from

Cowes and Southampton; to and from Cowes and Portsmouth, or Gosport: to and from Cowes and Lumington; to and from Newport. Southampton, Portsmouth, Gosport, and Lymington, by sailing vessels, or row-boats :-For a vessel to carry a four-wheel carriage, two horses, and luggage (horse-boat and other boatage included), with or without a family, horses, above two, to be paid for extra. at 3s. 6d. each A vessel, with or without a family, with baggage, and three horses..... A vessel to carry a four-wheel carriage and luggage, 1 without horses, and either with or without a family A vessel to carry a two-wheel ditto, with or without a family, and luggage, horses to be paid for extra, 0 19 at 3s. 6d. each..... A wherry or row-boat, with two men 0 12 A vessel for the day, with passengers, but without car-) 1 riage or horses, to and from either of the above places Passengers, boatage on embarkation and debarkation) 0 included, each

	£.	s.	d.
Passengers, boatage not included	0	1	0
Passengers by steam vessels, on the quarter deck and in			
the main cabin, boatage on embarkation and debark-	0	3	6
ation included, not exceeding			
Passengers by ditto, in the forecastle ditto ditto, not)	Λ	,	6
exceeding	٠	•	U
These sums to include all luggage, not exceeding one			
hundred-weight for each person.			
Four-wheel carriages, each £.1, viz:-			
For the vessel	0	10	0
For the boat at Cowes	0	5	0
For the boat at Southampton	0	5	0
Horses, each	0	4	6
Yearlings	0	2	0
N.B.—The Steam Packets are, the George IV.; the			
Earl of Malmesbury; and the Medina. They leave			
Cowes for Southampton at nine o'clock in the morning,			
and half-past four in the afternoon.			
Fare from Cowes to Southampton, per Steamers.			
Best cabin	0	3	0
Steerage	0	1	6
Prices to be taken for passengers and carriages, to and from	Ya	rmo	uth
to Lymington.			
For hire of a vessel to carry passengers and one horse,	Λ	10	6
or without a horse	v	10	U
Dittto, with two horses	0	12	6
Ditto, with three ditto	0	13	0
Ditto, if more than three, additional for each horse	0	1	6
A vessel to carry a four-wheel carriage, with or without			
the family, without horses (assistance and horse-boat	1	0	0
included)			
Ditto, two-wheel carriage, ditto	0	10	0
Ditto, to carry a four or two-wheel carriage, with horses,)	n	9	0
at per horse, additional	v		v
-			

	£.	s.	d.
Passage for a single person, without a horse	0	1	0
Ditto, returning the same day out and home	0	1	6
Wherry, with one man	0	5	0
Ditto, with two	0	7	0
Horse-boat, for shipping or landing at Yarmouth and \	0	0	6
Lymington	٠	Ů	•
By Glasgow steamer, quarter deck	0	1	6
forecastle	0	1	0
N.B.—The Glasgow Steam Packet.			
The mail boat leaves Lymington about nine o'clock			
in the morning, and returns from Yarmouth about three			
o'cleck in the afternnoon.			
,,			
To and from Ryde and Portsmouth, by Steam.			
Passengers by steam vessel, quarter deck	0	1	6
Ditto, Ditto, forecastle	0	1	0
Four-wheel carriages	0	14	0
Corporation dues	0	2	•
Assistants putting in and out of the boat	0	4	0
Light four-wheel carriages, drawn by ponies, or one horse	0	10	0
Corporation dues	0	2	0
Assistants putting in and out of the boat	0	2	0
Two-wheel carriages	0	7	0
Corporation dues	_	1	0
	0		
Assistants putting in and out of the boat	0	_	0
Assistants putting in and out of the boat Single horse		2	0
	0	2	0

Gentlemen to send servants with their carriages, horses,

&c. as the proprietors will not be answerable for accidents.

Orders for the horse-boat, for carriages and horses, to be towed by the steam vessels, received by either of the masters, at the office of Mr. Heather, Portsmouth; Mr. Thomas Kemp, Pier Toll-House, Ryde; or, Mr. William Upward, opposite the Bugle Inn, Newport.

	£.	s.	d.
The steam-boats leave Ryde for Portsmouth at 9, 12,			
5, and 7 o'clock. From Portsmouth to Ryde at 8, 10,			
3, and 6 o'clock.			
Wherry, with one man, to or from Portsmouth	0	5	0
Ditto, with two or more			0
By the Act of Parliament, a wherry can be compelled			
to go off from Ryde, in any fit weather, or at any time			
of the tide, for a fare of seven shillings; and the boat-			
man are liable to a fine of five nounds for taking			

men are liable to a fine of five pounds for taking more. In a case of imposition, summary redress may be had by applying to any acting Magistrate of the

Isle of Wight.

To and from Ryde and Southampton.

For hire of a sailing vessel, to carry passengers	0	15	, 0
Wherry, or row-boat, with one or two watermen			
Ditto, with four watermen	0	15	0

To and from Rude Comes, and Southampton, by Steam.

10 that from legae, courts, and south	mpron, rg	
•	to Cowes.	Southampton.
Quarter deck, from Ryde, each	2s. 6d.	3s. 6d.
Forecastle	1s. 6d.	2s. 6d.
Boatage at Ryde	0s. 3d. e	each.
Ditto, at Southampton	0s. 2d. d	litto.
The fare includes all luggage not exceed	ing one hu	ndred-weight

for each person. A steam vessel leaves Southampton every morning, at half-

past 8 o'clock, touching at Cowes at 10, Ryde at half-past 11, and arrives at Portsmouth about a quarter past 12. Returns from Portsmouth at 3, calling at Ryde at half-past 3, Cowes at half-past 4, and arrives at Southampton about half-past 6.

A steam packet leaves Portsmouth at half-past 8, calling at Ryde at 9 o'clock, Cowes at half-past 10, and arrives at Southampton at 12 o'clock. Returns from Southampton at 3 o'clock, touching at Cowes at half-past 4, Ryde at 6 o'clock, and arrives at Portsmouth about half-past 6 o'clock.

ISLE OF WIGHT.

	£.	s,	d.
Four-wheel carriages, each	1	0	0
Two-wheel carriages, each	0	10	0
Regulations for the charge of porterage at Ryde Pie	r.	-	
Barrow load to Lower Ryde			
Single trunk, or parcel, to ditto	0	0	3
Small parcel to ditto	0	0	2
Barrow load, to Upper Ryde, as far as the Star Inn	0	1	6
A single trunk or parcel, to ditto	0	ģ	6
A small parcel to ditto			
The Pier dues, in addition to the above, are-			
For each barrow load	0	0	6
A single trunk, or parcel, each	0	Ó	2

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1660	34	15	2	2	43
676	17	176			11
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SHORT

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTICES

OF

EMINENT INDIVIDUALS.

REV. HENRY COLE, D.D.

This gentleman was a native of Godshill; and after the usual course of education at Wykehama's school, Winchester, was admitted of the New College, Oxford. He there commenced Bachelor in the Civil Law, in the year 1529, and Doctor in the same faculty in 1540. great part of this interval was spent in Italy, and other parts abroad, which he judged most proper to perfect him in the walks of science and the knowledge of the world. On his return, he was chosen Warden of his maternal College, obtained some good preferments, and was generally considered as respectably eminent in the line of his profession. Leland, the antiquary, makes very honourable mention of his abilities, and in one of Ascham's letters, there is a handsome compliment paid to his learning and politeness. " I must be totally " destitute of these qualities myself," says that elegant

writer, " if I did not both love and admire them in "you." This letter is without a date, a circumstance which is mentioned, because Doctor Cole's public character, was not always of the most uniform tenor. It had doubtless been more happy for his fame, had he lived in times when political interests were less fluctuating. His qualifications and prospects led him to take an active part in most of the changes of those very unsettled times. When the doctrines of the Reformation (more anciently those of Wickliffe) began first to revive in England, he strenuously opposed them, both from the pulpit and the press. Meanwhile, as the court of Henry (for reasons universally known) grew daily more cool to the see of Rome, and the people still cooler to her extravagant corruptions, the Doctor assumed a milder tone, went often to hear Peter Martyr preach, and expressed a very great regard for him. He also acknowledged Henry's supremacy in the Church, and in his successor's time (Edward VI.) he went so far as to communicate with the reformers, and his pulpit sounded high of their doctrines. But in the reign of Mary his views of things were totally altered, and his zeal returned to its old channel. It was now that he was honoured with his Doctor's degree in divinity, and made Dean of St. Paul's, with a long et-cætera of other lucrative posts and preferments. It was doubtless a mark of the esteem in which his abilities were held, that he was chosen to maintain a public disputation at Oxford, with Cranmer and Ridley; and when the former was destined to the stake for heresy, Cole preached and published the

execution sermon. In short, he seems to have been at this time a leading man of a very leading party, as may further appear by a singular anecdote, which, as it concluded his popularity, it may also conclude this abridgement of his memoirs.

"Queen Mary having dealt severely with the Pro-" testants in England, about the latter end of her reign, " signed a commission to pursue the same course with " those in Ireland; and, to execute the same with " greater force, she nominated Dr. Cole one of the " Commissioners. The Doctor coming with the com-" mission to Chester on his journey, the mayor of that " city, on hearing that Her Majesty was sending a " message into Ireland, he, being a churchman, waited " on the doctor, who, in a discourse with the mayor, " taketh out of a cloak-bag a leather box, saying unto " him, - Here is a commission that shall lash the " 'heretics of Ireland' (calling the Protestants by that " name). The good woman of the house, being well " affected to the Protestant religion, and having a bro-" ther also, named John Edmonds, of the same, then a " citizen in Dublin, was much troubled at the Doctor's " words; but watching her convenient time, while the " mayor took his leave, and the doctor complimented " him down the stairs, she opens the box, takes the " commission out, and places in lieu thereof a sheet of " paper, with a pack of cards wrapped up therein, the " knave of clubs being faced uppermost. The doctor " came up to his chamber, and suspecting nothing of " what had been done, put up the box as formerly.

" The next day, going to the water-side, the wind and " weather serving him, he sailed toward Ireland, where " he landed the 7th of October, 1558, at Dublin. Then " coming to the Castle, the Lord Fitzwilliam, being " Lord Deputy, sent for him, to come before him and " the privy council; who, coming in after he had made " a speech, relating upon what account he came over. " he presents the box unto the Lord Deputy, who, " causing it to be opened, that the secretary might read " the commission, there was nothing save a pack of " cards, with the knave of clubs uppermost; which not " only startled the Lord Deputy and Council, but the " doctor, who assured he had a commission, but knew " not how it was gone: then the Lord Deputy made " answer, 'Let us have another commission, and we " 'will shuffle the cards in the mean while.' "doctor, being troubled in his mind, went away, and " returned into England; and, coming to the court, " obtained another commission: but staying for a wind " on the water-side, news came to him that the Queen " was dead. Thus God preserved the Protestants of " Ireland.

"Queen Elizabeth was so delighted with this story,
"which was told her by Lord Fitzwilliam on his return
to England, that she gave Elizabeth Edmonds (whose
husband's name was Maltershed) a pension of £.40,
during her life-time*."

[•] Cox's Hibernia, Vol. II.; Harleian Miscellanies, Vol. V.

SIR JOHN CHEKE.

This gentleman was descended from a respectable family, whose estate and mansion were at Mottistone. In the year 1531, being then seventeen years of age, he was entered of St. John's College, Cambridge. uncommon skill in languages, but more especially in the Greek (at that time but little studied), together with his fine classical taste, made him the pride and boast of that university*. When he was no more than twentysix years old, he had the honour to be chosen first Greek professor, in a foundation then lately instituted by Henry VIII., a post wherein he acquitted himself with the most undisputed honour and ability. No genius was ever better adapted to the revival of letters, which were then happily beginning to make a rapid He was not only instrumental in bringing the study of the Greek language into general vogue, but in reforming an uncouth and barbarous pronunciation of it, which had then long prevailed. Like most other reformations, indeed, this met at first with the opposition which prejudice and vanity never fail to promote. Gardiner, of Winchester, in particular, made as much noise about it as if the happiness of both worlds had depended on the matter in question. In the true spirit of popery, he thought to carry every thing by his magisterial sic edico. Accordingly, he published a formal edict against Cheke's new way, as he called it,

^{*} Epist. R. Aschami, lib. ii., p. 263.

and forbade every one to make use of it, on pain of his high displeasure. This, however, only served to call out the professor's abilities in his defence, to the astonishment of the learned world both at home and abroad. In a word, trifling as this debate might seem to be in itself, the old prelate had every reason to be mortified with the success of it on his part. He found himself clearly worsted, even in point of argument; and, in spite of all his menaces, the new method was proved to be, in reality, the old one, and universally adopted. Accuracy, indeed, was so much Mr. Cheke's characteristic, that it went into every thing he undertook. He was even allowed to write the finest hand of almost any man of his time.

In the year 1544, his reputation stood so high, that he was appointed to be one of the young Prince Edward's tutors; it was an age when learning was considered as one of the first recommendations to public notice. Edward, who was himself a surprising scholar, had the highest sense of his preceptor's merit; he not only conferred upon him the honour of knighthood (anno 1551), but made him soon after Chamberlain of the Exchequer, and a member of the Privy Council: but, alas! these bright days were soon overcast. The premature death of this amiable young monarch, threw the

• This fact is undoubtedly alluded to in those lines of the immortal Milton:—

Thy age, like our's, O soul of Sir John Cheke,

Hated not learning worse than toad or asp,

When thou taugh'st Cambridge, and King Edward Greek.

whole Protestant interest of the kingdom into the utmost consternation. Sir John took part with the unfortunate Lady Jane Grev. As a Protestant and a patriot, he could not do otherwise; this step was, however, his ruin. Accepting the office of her secretary, he was arraigned and condemned for high treason, though Mary was not at that time acknowledged Sovereign. obtained, indeed, her majesty's pardon respecting his life, but was forced to go abroad for quiet and a subsistence. For a while he read Greek lectures at Padua. and, afterwards at Strazburg, where, receiving information that his lady was at Brussels, on her way to meet him, he hastened thither to join her; but being basely betrayed, he was secured, brought home a prisoner, and committed to the Tower. In this situation he was daily visited by the Queen's chaplains, who teazed him with their importunities to become reconciled to their holy mother. Finding their arguments made no impression. they changed their ground, and told him plainly, that he had no other alternative but to turn, or burn. This was an argument which he, at least, perfectly well understood. and, alas! too sensibly felt the weight of. After some hesitation, he sent a paper to Cardinal Pole, containing some extracts from the fathers, which savoured highly of something like transubstantiation. He pretended (meaning, it is supposed, with a good deal of qualifying) that these were his own sentiments upon this subject. This paper was accompanied by a letter to the Cardinal, and another to the Queen, full of professions of loyalty, and praying, that by the interest of the former, he might

be excused the painful ceremony of a public recantation; but, poor gentleman, he deceived himself greatly, if he imagined there was any thing to be gained by these half concessions. The public recantation, and public penance of so great a man, were triumphs which the honour of the church could not dispense with. were rigorously exacted, and, alas! both reluctantly complied with. The weakness of the man excites pity; for who can answer for himself in so trying a situation. For the present he saved his life, but who was to restore him his peace? Mortified beyond expression, he was obliged to be present at the examination of heretics. upon almost every occasion; a bondage, to a generous mind, undoubtedly far worse than death! He survived this extreme vexation but little more than a year, viz. to the 13th of September, 1557. Thus died of grief, in the prime of his days, one of the most learned and ingenuous, and (this frailty excepted) one of the most virtuous and excellent of men.

REV. DR. THOMAS JAMES.

This learned divine and antiquary was born at Newport, in or about the year 1571; he was educated at the same school and college with his countryman, Dr. Cole, but was a man of a much more steady and uniform character. His acquaintance both with ancient and modern learning was so general, and his memory so happy, that he was esteemed and appealed to as a kind of living library. He had so intimate a knowledge of ancient MSS. in particular, that he could tell in what

age any one was written, by a bare inspection of the character. So well-earned a reputation naturally recommended him to Sir Thomas Bodley, as his first librarian, a choice, in which the whole university most heartily concurred. In this situation he much assisted his learned friend, Mr. Camden, in collecting materials for that great work, the Britannia. He is said to have begun the history of his native island in Latin, of which the introduction is still preserved in the above library. Many, however, were the more important works which he published, in which he discovered great capacity and diligence, and an uncommon ardour in the search of In the course of these researches, he more than suspected, that many frauds had been made use of to corrupt the monuments of sacred antiquity. In a convocation held at Oxford (1625), he moved for a committee to collate all the manuscript fathers in the libraries of England, both public and private, that the forgeries of foreign popish editions might be fully detected and exposed; but the spirit of the times was by no means favourable to such a design, and so it met with but little encouragement. Finding, therefore, he was likely to meet with but small assistance, he determined to do what he could in it himself; this, beyond a doubt, is what Camden alludes to, when he says of Dr. James, " That he was a learned man, a true lover of books, and "wholly devoted to them;" adding, "he is at this time " searching the libraries of England, from a concern for " the public good, and with a design, in which (if God " succeed him) he will be of no little service to the

"learned world." It is evident, from this passage, that so great a man as Camden did not consider Dr. James's project, either as visionary in its nature, or invidious in its principle. He died, however (anno 1629), without being able to bring it to the effect he wished, leaving behind him, says the biographer, this character:—
"That he was the most industrious and indefatigable "writer against Popery, that had been educated at "Oxford since the Reformation."

ROBERT HOOKE, M.D.

Robert Hooke, an eminent natural philosopher, was born at Freshwater, on the 18th of July, 1635, and for the first seven years of his life was in a very infirm state of health. His father, who was the minister of the parish, educated him under his own roof, as he had been such a sickly child that he was not expected to live. He was at first intended for the church; but after beginning the Latin grammar, his health became so weak, and he was so much subject to the head-ache, that his parents despaired of making him a scholar. Being thus left to the direction of his own genius, he amused himself in the formation of toys, and he even succeeded in the construction of a wooden clock, which exhibited in a rough manner the hours of the day, and in the formation of a full-rigged ship, about a yard long, which had a contrivance for firing some small guns as it sailed across a piece of water. This circumstance led his parents to the resolution of putting him an apprentice to a watch maker, or a painter; but, by the death of his father, in 1648,

neither of these plans were adopted. He was placed, indeed, for a short time under the celebrated painter, Sir Peter Lely; but he soon found, from experience, that he had chosen a profession which the state of his health would not allow him to prosecute; he was, therefore, sent to Westminster School, and was kindly taken into Doctor Busby's house, where he made great progress in Latin, Greek, Hebrew, and the oriental languages; he made also considerable progress in Euclid, and, as Wood informs us, he invented and communicated to Dr. Wilkins thirty different modes of flying.

About the year 1650 he went to Christ's Church, Oxford. In 1651 he was introduced to the Philosophical Society there. He was employed to assist Dr. Willis in his chemical experiments; and he afterwards laboured several years in the same capacity with Mr. Boyle. He received instructions in Astronomy from Dr. Seth Ward, Savilian professor of that science in Oxford, and was henceforth distinguished for the invention of various astronomical and mechanical instruments, and particularly for the air-pump, which he contrived for Mr. Boyle.

In consequence of perusing Ricciolus' Almagest, which Dr. Ward put into his hands, he was led, in the years 1656, 1657, and 1658, to the invention of the balance or pendulum spring, one of the greatest improvements which has been made in the art of horology. He mentioned this discovery to Mr. Boyle, who, as Dr. Hooke remarks, "immediately after His Majesty's "restoration, was pleased to acquaint the Lord Brouncker

"and Sir Robert Moray with it, who advised me to "get a patent for the invention; and propounded very " probable ways of making considerable advantage by it. "To induce them to a belief of my performance, I showed "a pocket watch, accommodated with a spring applied " to the harbor of the balance, to regulate the motion "thereof. This was so well approved of, that Sir "Robert Moray drew me up the form of a patent, the " principal part whereof, viz. the description of the watch " so regulated, is in his own hand-writing, which I have "vet by me. The discouragements I met with in the " management of this affair, made me desist for that time." In the agreement between Dr. Hooke, Mr. Boyle, Lord Brouncker, and Sir Robert Moray, which seemed to have been drawn up about 1663, it was provided, that out of the first £.6000 of profit, Dr. Hooke was to have three fourths; of the next £.4000, two thirds, and of the rest one half: but the other partners in the patent very improperly insisted upon the insertion of a clause, giving to any of themselves the sole benefit of whatever improvements they might make upon his invention.

About the same time, Hooke contrived the circular pendulum, which was shown to the Royal Society in 1663, and which was afterwards claimed by Huygens. This pendulum, which is described in Hooke's animadversions on the *Machina Celestis* of Hevelius, does not vibrate backwards and forwards, but always in a circle, "the "string being suspended above at the tripedal length, "and the ball fixed below, as suppose at the end of the "fly of a common jack." The motion of this circular



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pendulum is as regular, and much the same with those mentioned before; and was made to give warning at any moment of its circumgyration, either when it had turned but a quarter, a half, or any lesser or greater part of its circle. So that here you had notice not only of a second, but of the most minute part of a second of time. The establishment of the Royal Society, in 1660, afforded to Dr. Hooke numerous opportunities of extending his reputation. He published, in 1660, a small tract on the ascent of water in small tubes by capillary attraction, in which he showed that the height of the water was in a certain proportion to their bores. A debate arose on this subject in the Royal Society in April 1661; but Hooke's replies were considered so satisfactory, and raised him so high in the estimation of the Society, that in 1662 he was appointed Curator of Experiments to that distinguished body. He was also one of the ninety-eight persons who were declared members of the Royal Society, at a meeting of the council, held May 20, 1663, by virtue of the power given them by the charter for two months. He was admitted to the Society on the 3rd of June, and was peculiarly exempted from all payments. In the same year he took his degree of M.A., and the Repository of the Royal Society in the White Gallery of Gresham College was committed to his care. About this time he drew up a list of inquiries for the use of those who might have occasion to visit Greenland, or Iceland. Those which respect Iceland are numerous and interesting; and one of them is particularly deserving of notice:-" Whether

" spirits appear; in what shape; what they say and do; " any thing of that kind very remarkable, and of good " credit?" In May 1664 he delivered the astronomical lecture at Gresham College for Dr. Pope, who was absent in Italy; and in the same year Sir John Cutler gave him a salary of £.50 per annum, for reading a course of Mechanical Lectures, under the direction of the Royal Society. These lectures were afterwards published in quarto, in 1679, under the title of "Lectiones Cutleriana; " or, a Collection of Lectures, Physical, Mechanical, " Geographical, and Astronomical, made before the Royal "Society on several occasions at Gresham College;" to which are added divers miscellaneous discourses. On the 11th of January 1664, the Royal Society settled upon him a salary of £.30 per annum for life, for his labours as Curator of Experiments; and on the 20th of March of the same year he was appointed to succeed Dr. Dacres as Professor of Geometry in Gresham College. In the year 1665, Hooke published his "Micrographia; or, some Physiological Descriptions " of Minute Bodies, made by magnifying glasses; " with Observations and Inquiries thereupon." All the figures in this work were drawn with his own hand, and many of them are a kind of standard representations, which have been copied by succeeding authors. The best are those of the common mite, flea, louse, gnat, and ant. A new edition of it, with abbreviated descriptions. appeared in 1745, in which the baroscope, the hygroscope, and the engine for grinding optical glasses, were wholly omitted. During the recess of the Royal Society

on account of the plague in 1665, he accompanied Mr. Wilkins and other ingenious Authors into Surrey, where they continued their philosophical labours. In 1665, at one of the first meetings of the Royal Society, Dr. Hooke, produced a very small quadrant, for observing the minutes and seconds, by means of an arm moved with a screw along the limb of the quadrant. explanation of the inflexion of a direct into a curvilineal motion, was read to the Society on the 23rd of May, 1666. On the 19th of September, 1666, he laid before the Royal Society a model for re-building the City of London, which was destroyed by the great fire; but though his plan was not executed, he was appointed one of the Surveyors under the Act of Parliament, a situation in which he realized a considerable sum of money, which was found after his death in a large iron chest, that appeared to have been shut up for thirty years. The irritable temper of our Author now involved him in several quarrels, in all of which he conducted himself with impropriety. About this time he had a controversy with Hevelius, respecting the comparative merits of plain and telescopic lights. In 1671 he attacked Newton's theory of light and colours; and in 1675 he had a dispute with Mr. Oldenburgh, the Secretary to the Royal Society, in consequence of his Pamphlet, entitled, "A Description of Helioscopes, and some other " Instruments, made by Robert Hooke," in which publication Hooke complained that Oldenburgh had not done him justice respecting his invention of pendulum watches. The dispute terminated by a declaration of the Royal

Society who took the part of their Secretary. In 1676, he published his "Description of Helioscopes, and some other Instruments," a work which contains many curious inventions, some of which are described in anagrams. Upon the death of Oldenburgh, in 1677, Hooke was appointed to the vacant office of Secretary; and while he held that situation, he published, between 1679 and 1681, the seven numbers of the Philosophical Collections, which have always been regarded as a part of the Philosophical Transactions. About this time the natural peevishness of his temper began to become quite intolerable: he claimed as his own the inventions and discoveries of every other person, and he became so reserved in communicating his own labours to the public, though he read his Cutlerian Lectures, and exhibited new inventions to the Royal Society, yet he never left any account of them to be entered in the registers. the Principia appeared, in 1686, he laid claim to the doctrine of gravitation, which was warmly resented by Sir Isaac Newton. Hooke no doubt had the merit of stating, that gravitation was the power which kept the planets in their orbits, and he even made some experiments to determine the law by which it was regulated; but what a vast interval is there between this conjecture. happy as it is, and the splendid discoveries of Newton.

In the year 1687, he suffered a severe loss by the death of his brother's daughter, Mrs. Grace Hooke, who had lived several years with him; and the distress of his mind was still further increased by a Chancery suit with Sir John Cutler, respecting his salary. In 1691, Archbishop

Tillotson employed him in contriving the plan of the hospital at Hoxton, founded by Robert Ash; and out of gratitude for his services, that distinguished prelate obtained for him the degree of M.D. When the Chancery suit with Sir John Cutler was determined in his favour, in 1696, he was so overloved, that he left an account of his feelings in his Diary, expressed in the following manner:- "DOMSHLGISSA, that is, Deo " optimo maximo, sit honor, laus, gloria, in sæcula sæcu-"lorum. Amen." "I was born on this day of July, 1635, " and God hath given me a new birth; may I never forget " his mercies to me! while he gives me breath may I " praise him!" In order to induce him to complete some of his inventions, the Royal Society requested him, in 1669, to repeat most of his experiments at their expense; but the infirm state of his health prevented him from complying with their request. During the last two or three years of his life he is said to have sat night and day at a table, so much engrossed with his inventions and studies, that he never undressed himself, or went to bed. Emaciated with the gradual approach of old age, he died in Gresham College, on the 3rd of March, 1702, in the 87th year of his age, and was buried in St. Helens' Church, Bishopsgate Street, his funeral being attended by all the Members of the Royal Society who were then in London.

ADMIRAL HOBSON.

The village of Bonchurch claims the honour of having been the birth-place of this extraordinary man, who, from a common sea-boy, rose to a high rank in the navv. Hobson was left an orphan at an early age, and apprenticed by the parish to a tailor, at Niton, a species of employment ill suited to his enterprising spirit. he was one day sitting alone on the shopboard, a neighbour told him a squadron of men of war was coming round Dunnose; and the whole village, attracted by the beauty of the sight, flocked towards the shore. Young Hobson, following the first impulse of his fancy, quitted his work,-ran down to the beach, where he cast off the painter from the first boat he saw,-jumped on board, and plied the oars so well, that he quickly reached the Admiral's ship, where he entered as a volunteer, turned the boat adrift, and bade adieu to his native isle. Early the next morning, the Admiral fell in with a French squadron, and in a few hours a warm action commenced, which was fought on both sides with equal bravery. During this time, Hobson obeyed his orders with great cheerfulness and alacrity; but after fighting two hours he became impatient, and inquired of the sailors what was the object for which they were contending. On being told the action must continue till the white rag at the enemy's mast head was struck, he exclaimed, "Oh, if that's all, I'll see what I " can do." At this moment, the ships were engaged yard arm and yard arm, and obscured in the smoke of the Our young hero, taking advantage of this circumstance, determined either to hawl down the enemy's colours, or perish in the attempt. He accordingly mounted the shrouds unperceived, walked the horse of

the main yard, gained that of the French Admiral's, and, ascending with agility to the main-top gallant-mast head, struck and carried off the French flag, with which he retreated; and at the moment he regained his own ship, the British tars shouted "Victory," without any other cause than that the enemy's flag had disappeared. The crew of the French ship, being thrown into confusion, in consequence of the loss of their colours, ran from their guns; and while the Admiral and officers, equally surprised at the event, were endeavouring to rally them, the British tars seized the opportunity, boarded the vessel, and took her. Hobson at this juncture descended the shrouds, with the French Admiral's flag wound round his arm, and displayed it triumphantly to the sailors on the main deck, who received his prize with the utmost rapture and astonishment. This heroic action reaching the quarter deck, Hobson was ordered to attend there; and the officers, far from giving him credit for his gallantry, gratified their envy by browbeating him, and threatening him with punishment for his audacity; but the Admiral, on hearing of the exploit, observed a very opposite conduct:--" My lad," said he. to Hobson, "I believe you to be a brave young man: " from this day I order you to walk the quarter deck, " and according to your future conduct you shall obtain " my patronage and protection."

Hobson's conduct convinced his patron that the countenance shown him was not misplaced. He went rapidly and satisfactorily through the several ranks of

the service, till he became an admiral. He had the command of the Torbay, as Vice-Admiral of the Red, in the celebrated affair of Vigo; and for his bravery in that action, was presented by the Prince of Denmark to Queen Anne, who conferred upon him the honour of knighthood, and afterwards settled a pension of £.500 a year upon him, with a reversion of £.300 a year for his wife, in consideration of his eminent services. Nothing further is related of him after this period; but the following incident is said to have occurred. Being at Spithead, after his return from Vigo, he resolved to visit his native village, and Niton. Leaving his ship, he landed at Brading. In the course of a short time, he arrived at his old master's house, and found both him and his wife still alive. Having asked the old lady several questions relative to the fate of their lost apprentice, she said she supposed he was drowned, as the boat in which he went off to the ship was found, some days afterwards, without any person in it. The Admiral asked for some refreshments, and while she was busied in providing something for the illustrious guest, he began singing a song which the old lady well knew was the favourite song of her apprentice; she rushed into the room, and recognised Jack Hobson in the person of the gallant Admiral; and it is needless to relate how overjoyed she was, in once more beholding him whom she imagined was long since dead. The pleasure of the meeting was reciprocal, the gallant Admiral ever entertaining feelings of the sincerest gratitude for the kind

treatment he had experienced from his worthy hostess in his youthful days. On taking his farewell, he left with the tailor and his wife solid proofs of his generosity, at once characteristic of the goodness of his own heart, and of those kindlier feelings which have ever been the pride and honour of the profession of a British sailor.

CONSTITUTIONS

OF THE ORATORY AT BARTON,

Made, and in full force, under the seals of the Founders, John de Insula, Rector of Shalfleet, and Thomas de Winton, Rector of Godshill, according to their charters.

- 1. THAT there shall be six Chaplains, and one Clerk, to officiate both for the living and the dead, under the Rules of St. Augustin.
- That one of these shall be presented to the Bishop of Winchester, to be the Arch Priest; to whom the rest shall take an oath of obedience.
- That the Arch Priest shall be chosen by the Chaplains there residing, who shall present him to the Bishop within twenty days after any vacancy shall happen.
 - 4. They shall be subject to immediate authority of the Bishop.
- 5. When any Chaplain shall die, his goods shall remain to the Oratory.
- They shall only have one mess, with a pittance, at a meal, excepting on the Quarter Festivals, when they may have three messes.
 - 7. They shall be diligent in reading and praying.
- 8. They shall not go beyond the bounds of the Oratory, without licence from the Arch Priest.
- Their habit shall be one colour, either black or blue; they shall be clothed pallio Hiberniensi, de nigra boneta cum pileo.
- 10. The Arch Priest shall sit at the head of the table; next to him, those who have celebrated magnam missam; then the Priest of Saint Mary; next, the Priest of the Holy Trinity; and then the Priest who says mass for the dead.

- 11. The Clerk shall read something edifying to them while they dine.
 - 12. They shall sleep in one room.
 - 13. They shall use a special Prayer for their benefactors.
- 14. They shall, in all their ceremonies, and in tinkling the bell, follow the use of Sarum.
- 15. The Arch Priest alone shall have charge of the business of the house.
- 16. They shall, all of them, at their admission into the house, swear to the observance of these statutes.

Thomas de Winton, and John de Insula, Clerks, grant to John, Bishop of Winchester, and his successors, the patronage of their Oratory at Barton, in the Parish of Whippingham, that he might become a Protector and a Defender of them, the Arch Priest, and his fellow Chaplains. The Bishop, at the instance of John de Insula, the surviving founder, Thomas being then dead, orders that, after a year and a day from their entering into this Oratory, no one shall accept of any other benefice, or shall depart the house. Actum et datum in dicto Oratorio de Barton, a. 1289. Jordano de Kingston et aliis testibus.

Sir Richard Worsley's History of the Isle of Wight, p. 179, 180.



A List of the Parishes in the Isle of Wight, with the Clergy and Patrons. 1832.

PARISH.	INCUMBENT.	CURATE.	
Arreton v.	H. Atkins, A.M		
Binstead R.		A. Hewitt	Bishop of Winton.
Bonchurch R.	Archdeacon Hill		_
Brading R.	M. Popple, A.M.	Sir H. Thompson	Trinity Col. Cam.
Bembridge c.		Ditto	
Rejeton B	R Wilhowform		Bishop of Winton.
Brooke R.	T. Bowerman, A.M.		T. Bowerman, A.M.
Calbourne R.	T. Woodriffe, A.M.	- Scott	Bishop of Winton.
Carisbrooke, v.	J. Brecks. A.M	- Maude	r
Northwood, R.	T. Woodriffe, A.M. J. Brecks, A.M. Ditto	J. Brecks, A.M.	Queen's Col. Oxf.
Newport c.	Ditto	Henry Worsley .	•
Cowes (W.), c.	Ditto	J. B. Atkinson	
	C. Richards, A.M. Dr. Wood, D.D. Master of St. John's College, Cambridge, and Dean of Ely H. Worsley, D.		
	Master of St.		
Freshwater, R.	John's College.	J. Sedowick	St. John's Col-
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Gatcombe R.	H. Worsley, D.D.		
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Kingston R.	J. B. Atkinson		G. Ward, Esq.
Kingston R.	J. B. Atkinson		G. Ward, Esq.
Kingston R.	J. B. Atkinson		G. Ward, Esq.
Mottistone . R. Shorwell . v. Newchurch . v.	J. B. Atkinson S. W. Dowell W. Sneyd, A.M	J. Worsley	G. Ward, Esq. Lady Mildmay. Bishop of Bristol.
Kingston . R. Mottistone . R. Shorwell . v. Newchurch . v. Ryde, St. Thos. c.	J. B. Atkinson S. W. Dowell W. Sneyd, A.M.	J. Worsley W. Moore, A.M.	G. Ward, Esq. Lady Mildmay. Bishop of Bristol. G. Player, Esq.
Kingston . R. Mottistone . R. Shorwell . v. Newchurch . v. Ryde, St. Thos. c. Do. St. James, c.	J. B. Atkinson S. W. Dowell W. Sneyd, A.M.	J. Worsley W. Moore, A.M. R. W. Sibthorpe	G. Ward, Esq. Lady Mildmay. Bishop of Bristol. G. Player, Esq. R. W. Sibthorpe.
Kingston . R. Mottistone . R. Shorwell . v. Newchurch . v. Ryde, St. Thos. c. Do. St. James, c. St. Helens, P. c.	J. B. Atkinson S. W. Dowell W. Sneyd, A.M. E. G. Smith	J. Worsley W. Moore, A.M. R. W. Sibthorpe	G. Ward, Esq. Lady Mildmay. Bishop of Bristol. G. Player, Esq. R. W. Sibthorpe. Eton College.
Kingston . R. Mottistone . R. Shorwell . v. J Newchurch . v. J Newchurch . v. Do. St. James, c. St. Helens, P. C. St. Lawrence, R.	J. B. Atkinson S. W. Dowell W. Sneyd, A.M. E. G. Smith. H. Worsley, Ll.D.	J. Worsley W. Moore, A.M. R. W. Sibthorpe W. Griffin	G. Ward, Esq. Lady Mildmay. Bishop of Bristol. G. Player, Esq. R. W. Sibthorpe. Eton College. Lord Yarborough.
Kingston . R. Mottistone . R. Shorwell v. J Newchurch . v. J Newchurch . v. Ryde, St. Thos. c. Do. St. James, c. St. Helens, p. c. St. Lawrence, R. St. Nicholas	J. B. Atkinson S. W. Dowell W. Sneyd, A.M. E. G. Smith. H. Worsley, LL.D. Rev. W. Sewell	J. Worsley W. Moore, A.M. R. W. Sibthorpe W. Griffin	G. Ward, Esq. Lady Mildmay. Bishop of Bristol. G. Player, Esq. R. W. Sibthorpe. Eton College. Lord Yarborough. Gov. of the Island.
Kingston . R. Mottistone . R. Shorwell . v. J Newchurch . v. J Newchurch . v. Ryde, St. Thos. c. Do. St. James, c. St. Helens, P. C. St. Lawrence, R. St. Nicholas Shalfleet v.	J. B. Atkinson S. W. Dowell W. Sneyd, A.M. E. G. Smith H. Worsley, LL.D. Rev. W. Sewell H. Burrard, A.M.	J. Worsley W. Moore, A.M. R. W. Sibthorpe W. Griffin W. Jenkins	G. Ward, Esq. Lady Mildmay. Bishop of Bristol. G. Player, Esq. R. W. Sibthorpe. Eton College. Lord Yarborough. Gov. of the Island. The King.
Kingston . R. Mottistone . R. Shorwell . v. J Newchurch . v. Ryde, St. Thos. c. Do. St. James, c. St. Helens, P. c. St. Lawrence, R. St. Nicholas Shalfleet v. Shanklin b.	J. B. Atkinson S. W. Dowell W. Sneyd, A.M. E. G. Smith. H. Worsley, Ll.D. Rev. W. Sewell H. Burrard, A.M. Archdeacon Hill	J. Worsley W. Moore, A.M. R. W. Sibthorpe W. Griffin W. Jenkins	G. Ward, Esq. Lady Mildmay. Bishop of Bristol. G. Player, Esq. R. W. Sibthorpe. Eton College. Lord Yarborough. Gov. of the Island. The King. R. W. White, A.M.
Kingston . R. Mottistone . R. Shorwell . v. J Newchurch . v. J Newchurch . v. Ryde, St. Thos. c. Do. St. James, c. St. Helens, P. c. St. Nicholas Shalfleet v. Shanklin D. Thorley v.	J. B. Atkinson S. W. Dowell W. Sneyd, A.M. E. G. Smith. H. Worsley, Ll.D. Rev. W. Sewell H. Burrard, A.M. Archdeacon Hill J. Worsley, Ll.B.	J. Worsley W. Moore, A.M. R. W. Sibthorpe W. Griffin W. Jenkins J. Worsley, Ll. B.	G. Ward, Esq. Lady Mildmay. Bishop of Bristol. G. Player, Esq. R. W. Sibthorpe. Eton College. Lord Yarborough. Gov. of the Island. The King. R. W. White, A.M. J. Worsley, LL.B.
Kingston . R. Mottistone . R. Shorwell v. Newchurch . v. Neyde, St. Thos. c. Do. St. James, c. St. Helens, P. c. St. Nicholas Shalfleet v. Shanklin . D. Thorley v. Whippingham R.	J. B. Atkinson S. W. Dowell W. Sneyd, A.M. E. G. Smith H. Worsley, Ll.D. Rev. W. Sewell H. Burrard, A.M. Archdeacon Hill J. Worsley, Ll.B. Hon. F. Bouverie	J. Worsley W. Moore, A.M. R. W. Sibthorpe W. Griffin W. Jenkins J. Worsley, LL.B.	G. Ward, Esq. Lady Mildmay. Bishop of Bristol. G. Player, Esq. R. W. Sibthorpe. Eton College. Lord Yarborough. Gov. of the Island. The King. R. W. White, A.M. J. Worsley, LL.B.
Kingston . R. Mottistone . R. Shorwell . v. J. Newchurch . v. J. Newchurch . v. Ryde, St. Thos. c. Do. St. James, c. St. Helens, p. c. St. Lawrence, R. St. Nicholas Shalfleet v. Shanklin D. Thorley . v. Whippingham R. Wootton R.	J. B. Atkinson S. W. Dowell W. Sneyd, A.M. E. G. Smith. H. Worsley, LL.D. Rev. W. Sewell H. Burrard, A.M. Archdeacon Hill J. Worsley, LL.B. Hon. F. Bouverie R. W. White, A.M.	J. Worsley W. Moore, A.M. R. W. Sibthorpe W. Griffin W. Jenkins J. Worsley, Ll.B.	G. Ward, Esq. Lady Mildmay. Bishop of Bristol. G. Player, Esq. R. W. Sibthorpe. Eton College. Lord Yarborough. Gov. of the Island. The King. R. W. White, A.M. J. Worsley, LL.B. R. W. White, A.M.
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Kingston . R. Mottistone . R. Shorwell . v. J Newchurch . v. J Newchurch . v. Ryde, St. Thos. c. Do. St. James, c. St. Helens, P. c. St. Nicholas St. Nicholas	J. B. Atkinson S. W. Dowell W. Sneyd, A.M. E. G. Smith H. Worsley, Ll.D. Rev. W. Sewell H. Burrard, A.M. Archdescon Hill J. Worsley, Ll.B. Hon. F. Bouverie R. W. White, A.M. G. Burrard, A.M. Robert Sherson	J. Worsley W. Moore, A.M. R. W. Sibthorpe W. Griffin W. Jenkins J. Worsley, LL.B.	G. Ward, Esq. Lady Mildmay. Bishop of Bristol. G. Player, Esq. R. W. Sibthorpe. Eton College. Lord Yarborough. Gov. of the Island. The King. R. W. White, A.M. J. Worsley, LL.B. R. W. White, A.M.
Kingston . R. Mottistone . R. Shorwell . v. J Newchurch . v. J Newchurch . v. Ryde, St. Thos. c. Do. St. James, c. St. Helens, P. c. St. Nicholas St. Nicholas	J. B. Atkinson S. W. Dowell W. Sneyd, A.M. E. G. Smith H. Worsley, LL.D. Rev. W. Sewell H. Burrard, A.M. Archdeacon Hill J. Worsley, LL.B. Hon. F. Bouverie R. W. White, A.M. G. Burrard, A.M.	J. Worsley W. Moore, A.M. R. W. Sibthorpe W. Griffin W. Jenkins J. Worsley, LL.B.	G. Ward, Esq. Lady Mildmay. Bishop of Bristol. G. Player, Esq. R. W. Sibthorpe. Eton College. Lord Yarborough. Gov. of the Island. The King. R. W. White, A.M. J. Worsley, LL.B. R. W. White, A.M.

The following Gentlemen are Surrogates for granting Marriage Licences:-

Rev. Henry Worsley Rev. W. Sneyd Rev. G. Richards Rev. J. Brecks Northwood.

BOTANY.

The plants indigenous to the island are arranged according to the varieties found in particular districts.

ALUM BAY, FRESHWATER, AND THE NEEDLE POINT.

A	D. 1. 47. 7 7.7
Agrostis alpina	
Alisma ranunculoides	Small water plantain.
Althæa officinalis	Marsh mallow.
Anagallis tenella	Bog pimpernel.
Anthemis arvensis	Corn chamomile.
Aquilegia vulgaris	Columbine.
Asparagus officinalis	Common asparagus.
Avena pubescens	Rough oat-grass.
Ballota nigra	Stinking horehound.
Beta maritima	Sea beet.
Bidens cernuna	Water agrimony.
Borago officinalis	Common borage.
Bromus racemosus	Smooth brome grass.
Campanula glomerata	Little throat-wort.
Carduus termiflorus	Slender-flowered thistle.
Carduus pratensis	Meadow thistle.
Carex distans	Loose sedge.
Carex flava	Tawny sedge.
Carex hirsuta	Hairy sedge.

ISLE OF WIGHT.

Carex paniculata..... Great panicled sedge. Caucalis nodosa Knotted stone parsley. Centunculus minimus..... Bastard pimpernel. Cerastium tetrandrum Stitch-wort. Chara hispida Prickly stone-wort. Chenopodium rubrum Sharp-pointed blite. Chenopodium murale..... Thick shining blite. Chlora perfoliata..... Yellow centaury. Cistus helianthemum Dwarf cistus, or little sunflower. Cochlearia danica Danish scurvy grass. Comarum palustre Marsh einquefoil. Conferva equisetifolia..... Convolvolus soldanella Sea bind weed. Crithmum maritimum Sea samphire. Erigeron acre Blue flea bane. Eryngium maritimum Sea helly. Euphrasia officinalis Common eyebright. Euphorbia platyphylla Warty spurge. Festuca rubra Purple fescue. Fucus bifidus Fucus ciliatus Ciliated dulse Fucus confervoides..... Fucus coronopifolius Fucus edulis Red dulse. Fucus hypoglossum Fucus obtuses..... Fucus opuntia Fucus reniformis Kidney-shaped fucus. Fucus tenuissimus Genista anglica Needle furze. Genista tinctoria Dyer's green weed. Gentiana amarella Autumnal gentian, or fel-wort. Gentiana campestris Field gentian.

BOTANY.

Hypericum humifusum Trailing St. John's wort. Inula Helenium Elecampane. Juncus maritimus Sea hard rush. Lemna trisulca Ivu-leaved duck meat. Lichen atro-albus Spotted lichen. Lichen crenularius..... Rusty-shielded lichen. Linum augustifolium Narrow-leaved pale flax. Linum Radiola All-seed flaz. Lysimachia vulgaris Yellow loosestrife, or willow herb. Lythrum salicaria Loose strife. Mentha rotundifolia Round-leaved mint. Menyanthes trifoliata..... Water trefoil. Meriophyllum spicatum Feather pond weed. Œnanthe fistulosa Water drop-wort. Enanthe pimpinelloides Parsley drop-wort. Orchis ustulata Dwarf orchis. Orphrys apifera Bee orchis. Polygonum pallidum Pale-flowered persicaria. Potamogeton pusillum Small pond weed. Potamogeton pectinatum Fennel-leaved pond weed. Ranunculus flammula Little crowfoot. Ranunculu slingua Great cronofoot. Ranunculus pavvifiorus..... Small-flowered crowfoot. Rumex aquaticus Great water dock. Rumex pulcher Fiddle dock. Ruppia maritima Tassel pond weed. Ruscus aculeatus Knee holly, or butcher's broom. Samolus valerandi Water pimpernel. Santolina maritima..... Seed cotton weed. Scirpus setaceus Least rush. Scirpus multicaulis...... Many-stalked club rush. Scrophularia aquatica Water betony. Sedum Anglicum English stone grop. Sedum reflexum Sengreen.

Senecio sylvaticus Bushy groundsel.
Serapias paluatris Marsh helleborine.

YARMOUTH, AND THE RIVER YAR.

Antirrhinum majus Great snapdragon.
Atriplex laciniata Frosted orache.

Atriplex portulacoides Shrubby orache, or sea purslane.

Apium graveolens Smallage, or wild celery.

Cochlearia anglica... English scurvy grass.

Dactylis stricta Smooth cocksfoot grass.

Medicago polymorpha Snail-shell medick, or heart trefoil

Poa maritima Sea meadow grass.

Rumex pulcher Fiddle dock.

Ruppia maritima Tassel pond weed.

Salicornia herbacea Jointed glass-wort, or marsh sam-

phire.

Typha latifolia Great cat's-tail.

Valeriana rubra Red valerian.

Vinca major Greater periwinkle.

ST. HELENS, BRADING, AND BRADING HAVEN

Apium graveolens Smallage, or wild celery.

Artemisia cœrulescens Blueish southernwood.

Artemisia maritima Sea southernwood.

Atriplex portulacoides Shrubby orache, or sea purslane.

Borago officinalis Common borage.

Cistus helianthemum Dwarf cistus, or little sunflower.

Conyza squarrosa Great fleabane.

Euphorbia platyphylla Warty spurge.

Genista tinctoria Dyer's green weed.

Juncus maritimus Sea hard rush.

Ononis arvensis Hairy rest harrow.

Origanum vulgare Wild marjoram.

Poa maritima Sea meadow grass.

Pyrus aria White beam tree.

Salecornia herbacea Jointed glass-wort, or marsh sam-

phire.

Statice limonium Lavender thrift.

Thesium linophyllum Bastard toad flax.

ARRETON, PIDFORD, STANDEN HILL, AND GATCOMBE.

Circæa lutetiana Enchanter's nightshade.

Prunus institia Black bullace tree.

Verbascum nigrum Black mullein.

RYDE, AND NEIGHBOURHOOD.

Anthemis arvensis Corn chamomile.

Astragalus hypoglottis Purple mountain milk-wort.

Carex extensa Long bracheated carex.

Datura stramonium Thorn apple, or prickly pear.

Fucus coronopifolius

Geum urbanum Common avens.

Hieracium sabaudum Shrubby hawk-weed,

Layatera arborea Sea mallow tree, or lavatera.

Lichen altro albus Spotted lichen.

Lichen crenularius..... Rusty-shielded lichen.

Ligustrum vulgare Privet.

Linum angustifolium Narrow-leaved pale flax.

Lotus corniculatus Bird's foot.

Matricaria parthenium Common feverfew, or featherfew.

Pontentilla anserina Silver weed, or wild tansey.

Pontentilla reptans Common cinquefoil.

Pulmonaria angustifolia ,.... Bugloss cowslip.

Pulmonaria virginica

Pyrus domestica True service tree.

Rosa tomentosa Downy-leaved dog rose.

Sedum anglicum English stonecrop.

Senecio tenuifolius...... Hoary groundsel.
Serratula tinctoria...... Common saw-wort.

Smyrnium olusatrum Common Alexanders.

Solanum dulcamara Bitter-sweet, or woody nightshade.

Spartium scoparium Common broom.

Spiræa ulmaria Meadow sweet.

Tormentilla officinalis Septfoil.

Trifolium arvense Hare's-foot trefoil.

Tussilago farfara Common colt's foot

Ulva dichotoma

Ulva fistulosa

Veronica montana Mountain speedwell.

NEWPORT, SHIDE, CARISBROOKE, AND PANN.

Agrimonia eupatoria Common agrimony.

Aira aquatica Water hair grass.

Antirrhinum majus Great snapdragon.

Antirrhinum minus Little snapdragon.

Arum maculatum Wake robin, or suckoo pint.

Asperula cynanchica Squinancy-wort.

Asplenium scolopendrium Spleen-wort, or hart's tongue.

Astragalus hypoglottis Purple mountain milk-wort.

Avena fatua Bearded wild oats.

Avena pratensis Meadow oat grass.

Betula alnus Alder.

Carduus tenuiflorus Slender-flowered thistle.

Carduus acaulis Wild carline thistle. Centaurea scabiosa Greater knapweed. Cerastium aquaticum Marsh mouse-ear. Cheiranthus fruticulosus Wild wall-flower. Chenopodium murale Thick shining blite. Chenopodium polyspermum Upright blite. Chironia centaurium Common centaury. Chlora perfoliata Yellow centaury. Cichorium intybus Wild succory, or endive. Cistus, petalis basi aurantiis Dwarf cistus, or little sunflower.

Conferva equisetifolia

Conjum maculatum Common hemlock. Conyza squarrosa Great fleabane. Cornus sanguinea Dogberry tree. Digitalis purpurea Purple foxglove.

Epilobium tetragonum Square-stalked willow herb.

Equisetum arvense Common hor setail. Eupatorium cannabinum Hemp agrimony. Euphorbia amygdaloides Wood spurge. Euphrasia odontiles Red eyebright. Euphrasia officinalis Common eyebright. Festuca loliacea Spiked fescue.

Fucus hypoglossum

Galium cruciatum Cross-wort. Galium tricorne Corned bed straw.

Gentiana amarella Autumnal gentian, or fel-wort. Geranium columbinum Long-stalked crane's bill. Geranium lucidum Shining crane's bill. Geum urbanum Common avens. Gnaphalium rectum Upright cudweed.

Hippocrepis comosa Tufted horse-shoe vetch.

Humulus lupulus Common hops.

Hypericum hirsutum Hairy St. John's wort. Ilex aquifolium Holly, or holm.

Lichen atro-albus Spotted lichen.

Lichen crenularius Rusty-shielded lichen.

Ligustrum vulgare Privet.

Lotus corniculatus Bird's foot.

Lychnis dioica Red campion.

Lythrum salicaria Loose strife.

Malva moschata Musk mallow.

Melampyrum pratense Common yellow cow wheat.

Mentha sylvestris Horse mint.

Myosotis arvensis Field mouse-ear scorpion grass.

Myosotis palustris Water mouse-ear scorpion grass.

CEnanthe crocata Hemlock drop-wort.

Origanum vulgare Wild marjoram.

Orphrys spiralis Ladies' traces.

Osmunda regalis Roval moon-wort.

Papaver argemone Long rough-headed poppy.

Poa rigida Hard meadow grass.

Potentilla anserina Silver weed, or wild tansey.

Reseda luteola Wild woad, or dyer's weed.

Rosa tomentosa Downy-leaved dog rose.

Sison segetum Corn parsley, or stone-wort.

Thlaspi campestre Mithridate mustard, or bastard

cress.

Tormentilla officinalis Septfoil.

Trifolium fragiferum Strawberry-headed trefoil.

Turritis hirsuta Wall cress.

Tussilago farfara Common colt's foot.
Urtica dioica Common stinging nettle.

Virburnum lantana Mealy guelder rose.

SHANKLIN, AND ITS VICINITY.

Agrostis alpina Bristle-leaved bent grass.

Anthemis nobilis Common chamomile.

Bryonia dioica Red bryony, or wild vine.

Campanula hybrida Lesser Venus's looking-glass, or

corn bell-flower.

Carex pendula Pendulous sedge.

Chlora perfoliata Yellow centaury.

Cistus helianthemum Dwarf cistus, or little sunflower,

Fumaria claviculata White fumitory.

Hieracium umbellatum Bushy hawk-weed.

Ilex aquifolium Holly, or holm.

Jasione montana Hairy sheep's scabious.

Juncus Forsteri Narrow-leaved hairy rush.

Lathyrus sylvestris Narrow-leaved everlasting pea.

Linum angustifolium Narrow-leaved pale flax.

Matricaria parthenium Common feverfew, or featherfew.

Myrica gallica Dutch myrtle.

Papaver argemone Long rough-headed poppy.

Papaver dubium Long smooth-headed poppy.

Rubia tinctorum Wild madder.

Scirpus sylvaticus Wood club grass.

Scutellaria minor Little scull-cap.

Senecio sylvaticus Bushy groundsel.

Serapias latifolia Bastard hellebore.

Serratula tinctoria Common saw-wort.

Silene anglica Small corn campion, or English

catch-fly.

Solidago virgaurea Common golden rod.

Spartium scoparium Common broom.

Stellaria holostea Greater stitch-wort.

SANDOWN, LAKE, AND YAVERLAND.

Bunias cakile Sea rocket.

Chenopodium murale Thick shining blite.
Convolvolus soldanella Sea bind-weed.
Cuscuta europæa Great dodder.

Epilobium tetragonum Square-stalked willow herb.

Hypericum androsœmum Tutsan.

Lathyrus latifolius Broad-leaved everlasting pea.

Lemna trisulca Ivy-leaved duck meat.

Myriophyllum spicatum Feather pond-weed.

Papaver argemone Long rough-headed poppy.

Sedum anglicum English stonecrop.
Sedum reflexum Sengreen.

Senecio tenuifolius Hoary groundsel.

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ISLE OF WIGHT.

Serratula tinctoria Common saw-wort.

Silene anglica Small corn campion, or English

catch-fly.

Symphytum officinale Common comfrey.

Ulex nanus French furze.

UNDERCLIFF.

Agrimonia eupatoria Common agrimony.

Anthemis arvensis Corn chamomile.

Anthemis nobilis Common chamomile.

Antirrhinum orontium Calf's-snout snapdragon.

Arum maculatum Wake robin, or cuckoo pint.

Asperula cynanchica Squinancy-wort.

Asplenium scolopendrium Spleen-wort, or hart's tongue.

Atriplex littoralis Grass-leaved sea orache.

Ayena fatua Bearded wild oats.

Avena pubescens Rough oat grass.

Beta maritima Sea beet.

Betula alba Birch tree.

Betula alnus Alder.

Bromus erectus Upright perennial brome grass.

Bryonia dioica Red bryony, or wild vine.

Carduus eriophorus Woolly-headed thistle.

Carduus nutans Musk thistle.

Carlina vulgaris Wild carline thistle.

Campanula trachelium Great throat-wort, or Canterbury

bells.

Centaurea scabiosa Greater knapweed.

Chelidonium luteum Yellow-horned poppy, or sea

celandine.

Chenopodium murale Thick shining blite.
Chironia centaurium Common centaury.
Chlora perfoliata Yellow centaury.

BOTANY.

Cineraria integrifolia..... Mountain flea-wort. Circæa lutetiana Enchanter's night shade. Conferva equisetifolia Conium maculatum Common hemlock. Cornus sanguinea Dogberry tree, Cynoglossum officinale Great hound's tongue. Digitalis purpurea Purple foxglove. Dipsacus sylvestris Wild teasel. Equisetum arvense Common horsetail. Equisetum fluviatile River horsetail. Erica cinera Fine-leaved heath. Erica tetralix Cross-leaved heath. Erica vulgaris Common heath. Eupatorium cannabinum Hemp agrimony. Euphorbia amygdaloides Wood spurge. Euphrasia odontiles Red eyebright. Euphrasia officinalis Common eyebright. Festuca elatior Tall fescue. Fucus reniformis Kidney-shaped fucus. Fucus hypoglossum Fucus obtusus Fucus tenuissimus Fucus discors..... Fucus bifidus Fucus ciliatus Ciliated dulse. Fucus edulis Red dulse. Fucus coronopifolius Fucus confervoides..... Fucus opuntia Galium cruciatum Cross-wort. Gentiana amarella Autumnal gentian, or fel-wort. Geum urbanum Common avens. Gnaphalium rectum Upright cudweed. Hesperis inodora Dame's violet.

Humulus lupulus Common hops.

Hyoscyamus niger Common henbane.

Hypericum androsæmum Tutsan.

Ilex aquifolium Holly, or holm.

Iris fœtidissima Stinking gladwyn, stinking flag.

Lathyrus sylvestris Narrow-leaved everlasting pea.

Lichen crenularius Rusty-shielded lichen.

Lichen atro-albus Spotted lichen.

Ligustrum vulgare..... Privet.

Linum angustifolium Narrow-leaved pale flax.

Matricaria parthenium Common feverfew, or featherfew.

Melampyrum arvense Purple cow-wheat.

Mentha rotundifolia Round-leaved mint.

Mentha sylvestris Horse mint.

Monotropa hypopitys Yellow bird's-nest.

Myosotis arvensis Field mouse-ear scorpion grass.

Myosotis palustris Water mouse-ear scorpion grass.

Papaver dubium Long smooth-headed poppy.

Potentilla anserina Silver weed, or wild tansey.

Potentilla reptans Common cinquefoil.

Prunus insititia Black bullace tree.

Pyrus domestica True service tree.

Ranunculus flammula Little crow-foot.

Rosa tomentosa Downy-leaved dog rose.

Rubia tinctorium Wild madder.
Scabiosa columbaria Small scabious.

Serratula tinctoria Common saw-wort.

Silene anglica Small corn campion, or English

catch-fly.

Sison amomum Bastard stone parsley.
Sison segetum Corn parsley, or stone-wort.

Solanum dulcamara Bitter sweet, or woody nightshade.

Solidago virgaurea..... Common golden rod.

Tamus communis Black bryony, or ladies' seal.

Tormentilla officinalis Septfoil.

Trifolium fragiferum Strawberry-headed trefoil.

Tussilago farfara Common colt's-foot.

Ulex nanus French furze.
Ulva dichotoma

Ulva fistulosa

Urtica dioica Common stinging nettle.

Valeriana locusta Blue valerian.

Veronica montana Mountain speedwell.

Vinca major Greater periwinkle.
Viola hirta Hairy violet.

Viola odorata Sweet violet.

Virburnum lantana Mealy guelder rose.

MEDINA RIVER.

Œnanthe crocata Hemlock drop-wort.

Ranunculus hederaceus...... Iny-leaved crow-foot.

Salicornia herbacea Jointed glass-wort, or marsh sam-

phire.

Scutellaria galericulata Blue scull-cap.

Sparganium natans Floating bur-reed.

Symphytum officinale Common comfrey.

Typha latifolia Great cat's tail.

ALBANY BARRACKS, AND NEIGHBOURHOOD.

Achillea ptarmica Sneeze-wort yarrow.

Anthemis nobilis Common chamomile.

Geranium lucidum Shining crane's bill.

Poa rigida Hard meadow grass.

Ruscus aculeatus Knee holly, or butcher's broom.

Viola canina Dog's violet.

COWES.

Althæa officinalis Marsh mallow.

Anthemis arvensis Corn chamomile.

Anthemis nobilis Common chamomile.

Artemisia maritima Sea southernwood.

Atriplex littoralis Grass-leaved sea orache.

Atriplex portulacoides Shrubby orache, or sea purslane.

Beta maritima Sea beet.

Bryonia dioica Red bryony, or wild vine.

Bunias cakile Sea rocket.

Chelidonium luteum Yellow horned poppy, or sea celan-

dine.

Chlora perfoliata Yellow centaury.

Cichorium intybus Wild succory, or endive.

Cornus sanguinea Dogberry tree.

Digitalis purpurea Purple foxglove.

Epilobium tetragonum...... Square-stalked willow herb.

BOTANY.

Eryngium maritimum Sea holly. Eupatorium cannabinum Hemp agrimony. Euphrasia officinalis Common eyebright. Euphrasia odontiles Red eyebright. Festuca elatior Tall fescue. Fucus hypoglossum Fucus bifidus Fucus ciliatus..... Galium cruciatum Cross-wort. Genista tinctoria Dyer's green weed. Hypericum humifusum Trailing St. John's wort. Ligustrum vulgare..... Privet. Lotus corniculatus Bird's foot. Malva moschata Musk mallow. Matricaria maritima Sea feverfew. Enanthe pimpinelloides Parsley drop-wort. Rubia tinctorium Wild madder. Ruscus aculeatus Knee holly, or butcher's broom. Scabiosa columbaria Small scabious. Serratula tinctoria Common saw-wort. Silene maritima Sea campion, or catch-fly. Thlaspi campestre Mithridate mustard, or bastard cress. Trifolium fragiferum Strawberry-headed trefoil. Trifolium medium Zig-zag trefoil. Ulex nanus French furze. Ulva dichotoma Ulva fistulosa

Urtica dioica Common stinging nettle.

Verbascum thapsus Great mullein.

Vinca major Greater periwinkle.

GEOLOGY

OF

THE ISLE OF WIGHT.

The importance of Geology appears in a most striking point of view, as distinctly pointing out, by a correct examination of the strata, the places where certain substances may be reasonably expected, and where they are not to be found. Instead of being considered (as formerly) a collection of the dreams of philosophers, it affords, by its study, amongst other important purposes, a basis upon which may be founded the improvement of agriculture, and hence it becomes a science of the highest practical utility.

The Isle of Wight presents numerous and peculiar advantages for observing its geological formation; and the following observations are the result of an attentive consultation of the best papers published on this interesting subject, by Thomas Webster, Esq. Member of the Geological Society; the Rev. Professor Sedgwick; G. B. Sowerby, Esq.; and that excellent publication, "The Manual of Geology," by Henry T. De la Bèche, Esq., F.R.S. F.G.S. and Member of the Geological Society of France, 1832.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The most extraordinary circumstance in the geological structure of the Isle of Wight, is a series of strata, vertical or inclined at an angle of from 60° to 80°, which run across the middle of it from East to West, the parts on each side being composed of horizontal strata; thus separating the island into two distinct regions, the soil and strata of which are essentially different.

The inclined strata compose a range of hills that divides the island into two parts, extending from the Needles, at the West end of the island, to the Culver Cliffs, at the East; at which place may be seen vertical sections at right angles to the direction of the range. Mottistone Down is the highest of the chalk range. It is 700 feet above the level of the sea. Afton Down to the West, and Brook Down to the East of it, are not much lower; and the highest part of the hill between Freshwater and the Needles must exceed 600. The Eastern part of the range is not so high as the Western, but Ashey and Brading Downs are nearly 600 feet; Yaverland Down is something lower.

STRATA COMPOSING THE ISLE OF WIGHT.

- 1. Chalk formation.
- The lowest marine formation over the chalk, including plastic clay and sand.
 - 3. The lowest fresh-water formation.
 - 4. The upper marine formation.
 - 5. The upper fresh-water formation.
 - 6. Alluvium.

1 .-- THE CHALK FORMATION.

The coast of the Isle of Wight affords many excellent opportunities of examining the chalk. In numerous natural sections formed by cliffs, as well as in chalk pits, it has been observed as distinguished into three strata, each of which has peculiar and distinctive characters. The lower stratum is more or less argillaceous, and constitutes what is called the chalk marl; the middle stratum is distinguished by its whiteness and purity; the upper stratum contains layers of flint nodules.

2.—THE LOWEST MARINE FORMATION.

The whole of these strata have evidently been formed by the ocean, from the nature of the fossils contained in them, which, although entirely different from those of the chalk, are yet all of marine origin. The strata consists of clay, sand, &c.

3.-LOWER FRESH-WATER FORMATION.

This formation is a series of beds of sandy calcareous and argillaceous marls, sometimes with more or less of a brownish coaly matter; some appear to consist almost wholly of the fragments of fresh-water shells, many of which are sufficiently entire to ascertain their species. These are the lymneus, planorbis, cyclostoma, and perhaps the helix; with a bivalve resembling the fresh-water mytitus.

The quantity of shells, and the regularity and extent of the strata in which they are found, are too considerable to suppose that they could have been carried by rivers or streams into an arm of the sea; and in that case there would probably have been a considerable intermixture of marine shells. The spot where they are now found must have been at some period covered with fresh water, in which these animals existed in a living state. The mutilated condition in which these shells appear, seems to denote that they had not become mineralized sufficiently to preserve their forms, or that the place in which they were accumulated, was occasionally subject to agitations.

4 .-- UPPER MARINE FORMATION.

Over the lower fresh-water formation, is a stratum of clay and marl, containing a vast number of fossil shells, wholly marine. The marl is of a light greenish colour; and the fossil shells are so numerous, that they may frequently be gathered by handfulls and are in general extremely perfect. The several species of shells do not occupy separate beds, although they are much thicker in some places than others, and are then often accompanied by rounded nodules of greenish indurated marl. From the delicacy of the shells, and their perfect preservation, it is evident that they could not have been brought from great distances, but must have lived near the spots where they are now found. This greenish marl is separated from the upper fresh-water formation only by a bed of sand, a few inches in thickness.

5.—UPPER FRESH-WATER FORMATION.

The substance of which this stratum consists, is of various character, although it cannot be described as being subdivided into smaller beds. A great part is composed of vellowish white marl. sufficiently indurated to remain in blocks, when fallen down, but extremely friable, and which, like other marls, will not endure the In this, disposed without any regularity, are hard masses of rock, which appear to contain a greater proportion of calcareous matter, and to be in about an equal quantity with the marl. This stone is very durable, and is employed as a building material. Between these two extremes many parts are of intermediate degrees of hardness and durability. Many of the shells which are found imbedded in this stratum are quite entire; and these are mixed with numerous fragments of the same species. They consist, like the lower fresh-water formation, of several kinds of lymnei, helices, and planorbes, and, from the perfect state of preservation in which they are found, must evidently have lived in the very spots where they now are; the shells of these animals being so friable, that they could not have admitted of removal from their original situations, without being broken.

These organic remains, therefore, most distinctly mark the nature of the place where the strata enveloping them have been deposited. It must unquestionably have been the bosom of an extensive lake, in some period of the earth antecedent to human history; nor can the human mind refrain from emotions of extreme astonishment in contemplating these evidences of the revolutions which the earth must have undergone, when it is considered how very differently these strata are now situated. Instead of being found in a hollow, they compose the upper part of a hill (Headon), no longer surrounded by those elevations essential to the confinement of that body of fresh water which furnished a habitation to myriads of animated beings, of which there is nothing left to demonstrate their former existence, except such deposits, which remain a faithful record.

Over this bed is a stratum of clay, containing numerous fragments of a small bivalve shell, the hinge of which is of so peculiar a structure, that Mr. Parkinson was unable to refer it to any known genus. The shells are thin, and unmixed with any other species whatever.

Upon this lies another bed of yellow clay, without shells, and then a stratum of friable calcareous sandstone, also without shells.

To this sandstone succeed other calcareous strata, having a few fresh-water shells. Like the strata above mentioned, these are not subdivided into distinct beds; but some parts are of extreme compactness, so as to acquire a porcelaineous character. Other strata contain masses of chalky matter, most of which are of a roundish form; and among these also are many beds of a calcareous matter, extremely dense, and much resembling those incrustations that have been formed by depositions from water on the walls of ancient buildings in Italy. Through all these last strata are veins, frequently several inches in thickness, of very pure carbonate of lime, which is crystallized frequently in a radiated form. This stratum appears to have extended over the whole of the Northern half of the island, and may be considered the last formation.

6.-ALLUVIUM.

Under this title may be comprehended all those collections of various materials, which have been transported at some former period from different parts of the globe, and deposited on the surface. It is evidently composed of the detritus, or fragments of substances, which have been originally formed into regular strata, but which have been torn up and confusedly mixed together by violent or extraordinary causes, or gradually accumulated by rivers or meteoric agents. As might be naturally expected, it varies according to the nature of the strata from which it is derived.

Considered in this point of view, the study of it becomes particularly interesting, since it enables us to trace, in some degree, the great changes which have taken place upon the surface of the earth.

In the Northern part of the island, this alluvium, or covering, is of a peculiar nature. Besides the vegetable earth, clays, marls, and sands, which it possesses in common with other places, it is distinguished by a vast quantity of rounded siliceous pebbles, of various kinds and sizes, which lie distributed in a very unequal manner, sometimes forming thick beds intermingled with clay, sand, and small sharp fragments of flints; at other places mixed with shells of various kinds, and sometimes almost without any other substance. This compound is termed Flint Gravel.

In observing a heap of these pebbles, it is easily perceived that they consist of a great variety of kinds; and, upon attentively examining them, this variety is reducible to several classes.

Some are evidently fragments of the flinty nodules originally belonging to the chalk strata. This is evinced by their mineralogical characters, their sharp conchoidal fracture, peculiar black colour, and by portions of the white crusts, with which they were invested while in the chalk beds, still remaining attached to them.

In others, this origin is not so evident, the crusts having been entirely worn off, and the fragments themselves rounded by attrition. Yet their fracture, colour, and other circumstances, oblige us to suppose that these also were derived from the chalk. In many places the whole or the greater part of the gravel consists of these rounded chalk flints; and hence, probably, some have been induced to suppose that all the pebbles of the London gravel have proceeded from the same source.

But besides these, other siliceous nodules occur, the origin of which is not so evident, as they differ in many respects from the chalk flints, in their usual state. Of these, some are of a deep red colour, with a great degree of transparency, resembling cornelian: others are of a yellow calcedony, often translucent, and even botryoidal, and they pass into a kind that is yellow, opaque, and of a waxy lustre. Others again appear to be nearly allied to hornstone, and are frequently of irregular shapes, which are probably those of the original nodules.

Another remarkable class of siliceous pebbles is found, either mixed with all those above mentioned, or alone, or cemented together into a pudding-stone. These appear to have been originally formed of concentric coats, or layers, of different colours, which vary in almost every specimen. The colours are for the most part yellow, brown, red, blueish-black, grey, and white: but these run into each other, by an infinite number of shades. Others are clouded, or shotted with different tints, and have much the appearance of Egyptian pebbles. They take an excellent polish, and are then often extremely beautiful.

These last appear rather more to resemble agates than chalk flints. They are never found of a large size, seldom exceeding two inches in diameter, and generally are not more than one inch: they are of an oval and flattened form, which appears to have been their original figure, although they have evidently been subjected to a certain degree of attrition.

All the above-mentioned pebbles are sometimes surrounded by crusts; and it does not appear clear whether these are not sometimes original, though perhaps stained by the ochreous substances in which they have been imbedded, or whether they are generally the effect of decomposition. Flint appears to be one of the most

unchangeable substances with which we are acquainted. We see buildings constructed with flints, that have resisted the agency of the atmosphere for many centuries, without undergoing the smallest visible alteration, or having become whitened in the least degree. It is, however, well known to be liable to decomposition, under certain circumstances; and it must be allowed that the combined action of moisture and various decomposing causes, whilst a mineral remains buried in the soil, may produce effects which we can scarcely estimate.

Upon the whole, however, it appears to be extremely improbable, that any species of imaginable action could have converted a fragment of chalk flint into a substance so very different as one of the rounded concentric pebbles of the London gravel.

In endeavouring to obtain a just idea, with respect to the origin of the different accumulations which are found in the gravel, it may be useful to consider the various changes which have taken place in the upper strata. Of these, although ignorant of their causes or their extent, we yet perceive the traces written in characters sufficiently legible.

Although the chalk has been originally formed at the bottom of the ocean, yet from some change which took place, either in the level of the sea or in the state of the strata, part of it, probably at an early period, has been above and part below the surface of the water, as at present; and this before the deposition of those strata which we now see immediately superimposed upon it.

From that date, and by the same causes as are still seen producing this effect, did probably the formation of rounded flint pebbles begin. The chalk itself, being easily acted upon by the waves, became disintegrated, while the siliceous nodules were better able to resist this abrasion, though yet liable to be broken, and rounded, by friction against each other.

This effect takes place chiefly upon the margin of the sea; in deep water it may in some degree be produced by the action of the tides; but it is by the irresistible force of the billows and breakers, that it proceeds with the utmost rapidity. Hence all geologists, in

examining the history of the strata, have considered rounded pebbles as proofs of the existence of land elevated above the water.

At this remote period of the earth, when the outline of the coasts was, as now, deeply indented by gulfs and bays, but whose forms and situations had but little if any correspondence with the present, great changes must have taken place by the gradual action of the sea; and vast accumulations of pebbles of different materials, formed by attrition, would be thrown upon the shores.

CONCLUDING OBSERVATIONS.

One of the most interesting consequences deducible from the above examination of the last formed strata of this country, is, perhaps, the prospect which it seems to afford us, of establishing, in some degree, a series of epochs between the deposition of the chalk strata, and the formation of the present surface of the land; not indead to be distinguished by computable time, since no date can be affixed to any of the changes to which I have alluded, but an order of succession in the great events appears rationally probable, rather than simply hypothetical; and our deductions may possibly lead to a more satisfactory result.

The origin of the calcareous matter of which the chalk formation is composed, remains one of those hidden mysteries on which all the speculations of geologists have not yet thrown any certain light.

In the several strata of chalk however, although their sources were probably not very different, we may perceive several circumstances which indicate the action of modifying causes in each deposition, that seem to have had considerable influence upon organic life. The almost entire absence, in the lower beds, of those siliceous nodules that are so numerous in the upper one, and the remarkable differences in their animal remains, furnish sufficient reasons for this supposition.

Calcareous, argillaceous, and siliceous matter, the whole or part of which was in a state of solution, originally formed the mass of this formation. Of these, the argillaceous seems to have subsided first, but more or less mixed with calcareous earth; the silex now occupies the upper division, but whether separated by the action of chemical affinities, or introduced subsequently, does not yet appear. The tranquil state of the ocean during this period may be inferred from the perfect preservation of the numerous delicate fossil organic bodies now found in the chalk.

An era of turbulence seems to have succeeded; during which, however, the depositions of the plastic clay and sand denote certain intervals of repose. The surface of the chalk, already solidified, was in a certain degree, though irregularly, subjected to the agency of water in motion; and other causes might have combined in destroying the original horizontality of its position; but where the vast bed of London clay subsided, the sea must have regained its former tranquillity.

The numerous vestiges of vegetables as well as animals to be found in this stratum, whose recent analogies are now seen only intropical countries, involuntarily lead the mind to contemplate with wonder the altered condition of this portion of the globe. Have the laws which regulate the place and motions of this earth in the system of the universe been subjected to change? Are there in these any sources of irregularity or gradual alteration, the proofs of which can be detected?—These are questions for astronomers.

In speaking of the formation of the gravel, the probable mode has been detailed, by which mountains of chalk originally appearing above the sea may have been worn away, cliffs have been formed, and the flints broken, and rounded into pebbles. Of the early existence of this process, we have seen proofs in the vertical bed of pebbles of Alum Bay, and in those frequently found in the sand of the plastic and blue clay in many other places.

The extraordinary event of the elevation or subsidence of the chalk of the Isle of Wight (so conspicuous in Alum Bay) and Dorsetshire, must have taken place after the deposition of the great stratum of blue clay.

A change of this kind, of which we have no parallel in human

record, it would be in vain to endeavour to account for, but it must have been an event of itself sufficient to produce great changes in this part of the globe, and must have been accompanied by the most extraordinary phenomena. From the correspondence in the situation of the chalk, and the accompanying strata in the Isle of Wight and Dorsetshire, it should seem, that the range of chalk hills in each of these places was at first united; and thus a marine gulf was formed, open to the East, in which a part of the depositions at that time going on in the ocean subsided.

The observations of several geologists have shown the natural tendency which the sea has to fill up estuaries, and to throw up bars across their mouths by the accumulation of pebbles and sand. Many remarkable instances of this process have been observed on the shores of the Baltic, and even in this country. It appears also that such gulfs and bays are frequently converted into fresh-water lakes, of which Loo Poole, in Cornwall, is an excellent example.

As it is most philosophical to seek for the solution of natural phenomena from known causes, might we not suppose that a similar circumstance had converted the gulf we have contemplated (now partly occupied by the Solent) into a lake of fresh water? If the size of the bar necessary for this purpose should appear extraordinary, we have only to recollect the Chesil bank, which now joins the Isle of Portland to the main land; and many others of the same description.

Upon examining the cliff at Brighton, the idea presents itself, that it might possibly be the remains of this ancient enclosure of the lake. That it exhibits the vestiges of a vast and ancient accumulation well fitted for this purpose there can be little doubt; and it is evident, that it has extended in the necessary direction; it being now a vertical section of what must have run out far into the sea.

Whether such a supposition as this can afford a solution of the phenomena of strata formed in fresh water, appearing over marine strata, is left to be determined by those who are competent to such a task. Of the great antiquity of these great and numerous collections of fresh water in the world, we have, however, abundant proofs, in the admirable researches of the ever-to-be lamented Cuvier on the extinct genera of animals, which inhabited their borders.

It would perhaps be impossible clearly to ascertain what could have furnished the prodigious quantity of calcareous, and still more the siliceous matter, which they held completely in solution; in modern lakes we have examples of strata now forming of marl, arising from the shells of the numerous fresh-water animals which inhabit these shells, but these beds (as far as is yet known) are not consolidated.

Was a portion of the calcareous part of these ancient strata derived from the surrounding calcareous hills, which might have been lofty?—If the section of the Isle of Wight is examined, the probability appears considerable, that the strata of chalk must have stood at a considerable height above the lake; although it has subsequently undergone the same levelling process to which all the surface of the island has been subjected.

Whether the existence of the second fresh-water formation in the Isle of Wight will admit of the same solution as has been proposed for the first, must be left, like it, undecided; but it appears to have taken place in a lake possessing the utmost tranquillity.

An important conclusion may be drawn from the section of the Isle of Wight already described, and which of itself forms a volume; therein we may read the geological history of several of the latest revolutions which our earth has experienced.

The idea alluded to is, that the last fresh-water formation, as well as all the other strata which we have been considering, is anterior to the great event which gave the last shape and surface to our land.

In the highly inclined and vertical positions of the strata of Alum Bay, the effect is visible of some great convulsion of nature, previous to the formation of the last strata.

In the horizontal deposits of the North side are perceivable strata of great extent and antiquity, yet formed at a later period; but in the outline exhibited by the surface of the island, and which has no reference whatever to that of the strata, is plainly to be perceived the effect of a general and powerful agent, which has subsequently formed the whole of the contour in one bold and sweeping outline.

It may be interesting to see how the same result can be obtained by a careful survey of different portions of the globe.

Messrs. Cuvier and Brongniart have laid considerable stress on the observation, that the outline of the present surface has no resemblance whatever to the undulations of the strata derived from the irregularity of the bottom of the basin. But how much more striking is this in the Isle of Wight. By no ingenuity of reasoning can the present form of its surface be derived from the bed of that ocean which deposited the chalk; nor would it be produced by any of the causes now acting; and nothing remains for us but to admit that it has been the effect of an extraordinary and an extensively-acting cause.

In the smooth and undulating surface of the chalk hills, in the banks of gravel of great extent, in the deep hollows often filled up again by the detritus of regular strata, in the direction of the principal ridges and valleys, we cannot but recognise the effect of water, the only agent we know to be capable of producing such appearances.

But under what influence has this power, fully equal to such a purpose, been directed? What could give sufficient energy to a body at other times so tranquil? These are questions of which the complete solution will perhaps ever remain in obscurity.

Yet already we have had sufficient proofs that the sea has not always maintained the same relative level; that it has alternately risen and fallen, although to ascertain the distance of time between these changes be absolutely beyond the reach of human sagacity.

Let us then imagine an ocean in a violent state of agitation. The hills of chalk, and the last depositions of the globe are torn to pieces; the flints are dispersed, and rounded by attrition against each other; finally, currents carry them to great distances, and lodge them in hollows worn by the waters, or form them into

ridges, and other accumulations. Fragments of other rocks are intermixed; forests are torn up and levelled, and, with the vegetable soil, formed into morasses. The inhabitants of the land are destroyed, and buried deep in this dreadful ruin. But a more surprising revolution ensues. Disorder ends—the waters retire—the Northern continents are disclosed—become fitted for vegetation, and are peopled by the various tribes of animals which now inhabit them.

To facilitate geological observation, it may be advisable to divide the island into four districts, taking the range of chalk hills from East to West, and the Medina river from North to South, as the lines of demarkation.

1 .- From the entrance of Brading Haven to Cowes.

The section of the strata from Brading Haven to Yarmouth, is as follows, beginning at the bottom:—

1.	Blue clay	. Dep	th	unl	known
2.	Sand	50 fe	et	0	inches
3.	A siliceous limestone, called Rag	0 -	_	6	_
4.	Sand	0 -	_	8	
5.	Siliceous limestone	0 -	_	6	
6.	White shell marl	0 -	- :	10	
7.	Siliceous limestone	1 fo	ot	6	_
8.	Limestone, composed of the fragments of				
	fresh-water shells	1 -	_	6	— ,
9.	Ditto, the fragments still more apparent	2 fe	et	0	_
10.	Ditto, the fragments still larger	4 -	_	0	_
11.	Ditto, fragments still coarser	2 -	-	0	
12.	Blue clay, in which are many large and loose				
	masses, which appear to belong to the				
	upper fresh-water formation				

The calcareous strata of the upper fresh-water formation may be found about Binstead and Cowes; numerous blocks of it lie loose in the soil.

The quarries of Binstead, near Ryde, were formerly of great

celebrity, and furnished the materials for many ancient edifices, both civil and religious, in the Isle of Wight and the counties contiguous. Their extent may be traced by the broken ground where they have been filled in. The fragment stone of Binstead, when examined with a magnifier, has a very singular appearance. In some specimens, the fragments remain of a shell, apparently belonging to the genus Cyclostoma Lam, though in a sparry state; but in general the substance has disappeared, leaving a cavity where it formerly existed; so that, in fact, instead of being fragments cemented together by calcareous spar, the stone consists of the hollow moulds of fragments held together by that matter. It would seem as if the shells themselves had been gradually absorbed into the substance of the cement.

The Rev. Professor Sedgwick, M.A. F.R.S., &c. in an address to the Geological Society, delivered on the evening of the 18th of February, 1831, on retiring from the President's chair, remarks:—

"On the subject of tertiary deposits, I have finally to notice a communication by Mr. Pratt, who found, during last summer, in the lower fresh-water marls of Binstead, in the Isle of Wight, many comminuted or rolled fragments of the bones and teeth of several species of Mammalia, mingled with pulverized shell, and with the bones of two or three species of fresh-water turtles, resembling those described by M. Cuvier, from the Paris basin. Among the more perfect specimens of these fossils, the author found a tooth of the Anoplotherium commune, and the teeth of two species of Paleotheria: thus confirming a previous discovery made known by Mr. Allen, and perfecting the zoological analogy, between the newer locustrine formations of England and central France.

"The bones of the Binstead marls do not, however, belong ex"clusively to the order of Pachydermata; for the author also found
"the jaws of a ruminating animal closely allied to the genus
"Moschus, but at the same time differing in some essential cha"racters from every species hitherto described; and he gives us
"reason for sanguine hope, that large additions may hereafter be
"made to his very important list of new fossil quadrupeds.

"All the magnificent generalizations of Cuvier, as far as they are borne out by the zoological phenomena of the Paris basin, apply therefore, literally, to the more recent physical revolutions of our own country."

The lower fresh-water deposits of Binstead consist of a limestone formed of fragments of fresh-water shells, white shell marl, siliceous limestone, and sand. According to Mr. Pratt, one tooth of an Anoplotherium, and two teeth of a Palæotherium, have been discovered in the lower and marly beds of the Binstead quarries and he further states, "that these remains were accompanied not "only by several other fragments of bones of Pachydermata (chiefly "in a rolled and injured state), but also by the jaw of a new species "of ruminant, apparently closely allied to the genus Moschus."

When boring for the foundation of the Pier at Ryde, it was found that the first three feet was muddy sand, under which lay a stratum of blue clay, which also forms the Mother Bank, and the bottom of the Solent.

The whole of the North shore of the Isle of Wight has been for ages in a state of constant ruin, by the action of the sea, and the sliding down of the soil. It is, therefore, difficult to find any part of the strata in their original situation; on this account, fresh-water and marine shells are frequently found together in confusion.

The cerithia, cyclades, cytheræa, oysters, and other fossil shells, which are so numerous on the shore near Cowes, and occasionally found between that town and Ryde, are derived from the blue clay of the upper marine formation, which is situated above that now under consideration, and of which the sloping banks chiefly consist.

That occasional alternations and mixtures of marine and fresh water shells should occur, may, à priori, be expected. They would denote either the gradual nature of the change that has taken place in an arm of the sea, before it became completely a lake of fresh water, or the occasional irruptions of the ocean at a subsequent period. These beds can be traced to a considerable distance Eastward of Ryde, nearly to Nettlestone, or Sea View.

[•] De la Bèche's Manual of Geology, 1832, p. 241.

Norris Castle is built of stone, quarried on the grounds by the late Lord Henry Seymour, the strata of which correspond with that of Binstead.

2.—Cowes to Yarmouth.

The geological character of this division corresponds with that above described.

The only layers of shells noticed by Mr. Webster, alternating with those of fresh-water, appeared to belong to the genus Cerithium. They are abundant at Gurnet Point.

3 .- Yarmouth to St. Catherine's Hill.

Section of the vertical beds in Alum Bay. (Order ascending.)

Above, or rather next to the chalk, &c.

- 1. Green, red, and yellow sands, 60 feet.
- 2. Dark blue clay, containing green earth, and nodules of dark limestone, in the latter of which Cytherææ, Turritellæ, and other shells are found; 200 feet.
 - 3. A succession of variously-coloured sands; 321 feet.
- 4. Beautifully-coloured sands, alternating with pipe-clay, coloured, white, yellow, grey, and blackish; 543 feet. In the central parts of these latter deposits are three beds of lignite; and above them, at some distance, are five other lignite beds, each one foot thick.
 - 5. Strata of rolled black flints contained in a yellow sand.
- Blackish clay, containing much green earth and septaria; analogous to London clay.

It will be observed, from these sections, that the transporting powers of water have not been precisely similar near London and at the Isle of Wight. At the former, there would appear to have been a greater movement than at the latter; the mass of the strata near London containing more pebbles, in proportion to its depth, than the beds of the Isle of Wight, where there would appear to have been a more calm, as well as a more abundant deposit. This may, perhaps, in some measure be accounted for, by supposing the Isle of Wight strata, now thrown into a vertical position, to have been gradually accumulated in a hollow or cavity, more remote from the disturbing power of currents, or motions in the water, than in shallower depths. At all events, the transporting power of the waters appears to have been irregular; their velocities varying in such a manner, that pebbles are carried forward at one time while fine particles of detritus are alone moved at another. In the Isle of Wight beds, we also see that circumstances have been favourable to the accumulation of vegetable matter, which is not irregularly dispersed, but occurs in beds; the circumstances which attended this deposit being continued at irregular intervals, such as might be expected at the mouths of rivers.

Fresh-water formations.—We are indebted to Mr. Webster for the discovery of these beds, not long after the labours of M. M. Cuvier, and Brongniart, on the supracretaceous rocks round Paris, so strongly excited the attention of geologists. The fresh-water strata of the Isle of Wight are divided into two deposits by a rock, characterised by the presence of marine remains, and named the Upper Marine Formation, from being a supposed equivalent to the sands which intervene between the two fresh-water deposits of Paris.

Professor Sedgwick observes, that in the upper part of this deposit there is a mixture of fresh-water and marine species, especially in Colwell Bay, where a single specimen of rock contained the following genera: Ostrea, Venus, Cerithium, Planorbis, and Lymnæa. The common fossils, in the lower fresh-water deposit, would appear to be: Paludina, Potamides, Melania (more than one species), Cyclas (two species), Unio, Planorbis, Lymnæa (of both the last, more than one species), Mya, Melanopsis*.

The upper Marine Formation, first noticed by Mr. Webster, was called in question by Mr. G. B. Sowerby, who showed that all the

[.] Sedgwick on the Geology of the Isle of Wight. Annals of Philos. 1829.

shells detected in it were not marine; and he hence inferred that there was no real separation between the fresh-water formations of the Isle of Wight*. Subsequently to Mr. Sowerby's remarks. Professor Sedgwick has presented us with an account of these strata. in which he states, that "the lower calcareous beds appear to have " been tranquilly deposited in fresh water; but if we ascend to the " argillaceous marl which rests immediately upon them, we not " only find a complete change in the physical circumstances of the " deposit, but a new suite of organic remains, some of which are of a " marine origin, others of a doubtful character, and a few are identical "with those in the lower bedst." With regard to the organic remains contained in this rock, Mr. Webster points out a thick ovster-bed in Colwell Bay; and Professor Sedgwick gives the following list of shells:-Murex (at least two species), Buccinum, Ancilla subulata, Voluta (resembling V. spinosa), Rostellaria rimosa (two last species rare), Murex effossus, BRANDER; M. innexus, BRANDER. Fusus (fragments), Natica, Venus, Nucula, Corbula, Corbis, Mytilus, Cyclas, Potamides, Melanopsis, Nerita (two species, one approaching N. fluviatilis), together with other fresh-water shells. These beds would therefore appear to have been deposited, as Professor Sedgwick observes, in an estuary. But to have produced this estuary, and the circumstances requisite for the presence of marine shells, some physical change, some alteration of the relative levels, or of the geographical features of the sea and land, seems necessary, for the previous deposit does not contain marine remains.

UPPER FRESH-WATER FORMATION.

This, according to Mr. Webster, principally consists of yellowish white marls, in which there are more indurated, and apparently more calcareous portions. The organic remains are either freshwater or terrestrial; and therefore the circumstances, whatever

- * G. B. Sowerby's Annals of Philosophy, 1821.
- † Sedgwick's Annals of Philosophy, 1822.

they were, which permitted a mixture of marine shells in the beds beneath, no longer existed; and a tranquil deposit in some lake was, probably, the mode in which these beds, about 100 feet thick, were formed.

The fresh-water formation of Hordwell Cliff, below Christchurch, Hampshire, was first described by Mr. Webster in 1821. The cliff is noticed as composed of alternations of clays and marls, some of a fine blueish green colour, in which there were also beds of hard calcareous marls, apparently derived from shells of the genera Lymnæa and Planorbis. The whole is surmounted by a mass of transported gravel, which covers the various rocks of the vicinity. Mr. Webster observed, that these beds seemed the equivalent of the lower fresh-water deposit of the Isle of Wight. Subsequently to these observations of Mr. Webster, Mr. Lyell published a more detailed account of the Hordwell beds; whence it would appear that the upper strata do not show a passage into a marine deposit, as was at first supposed, but that all the fossil contents of the beds point to a fresh-water origin, equivalent to the lower fresh-water rocks of the Isle of Wight. Mr. Lyell says, the organic remains of a tortoise have been found at Thorness Bay, Isle of Wight.

Both in the Isle of Wight, and on the opposite coast of Hampshire, these fresh-water deposits rest upon a considerable thickness of sand. As a similar sand occurs in the fresh-water rocks of Hordwell, Mr. Lyell considers that there is as much probability of its fresh water, as of its marine origin. Be this as it may, there must have been a difference in the transporting power of water carrying the sands, from that which permitted the deposit of the marls, which seem to have been very quiet. The sands certainly do not require any considerable velocity of water; still there must have been a difference in the circumstances attending the deposit of the one mass and of the other, though those which gave rise to the mass of sand, partially returned during the formation of the marls.*

[•] De la Bèche's Manual of Geology, 1839, p. 237.

In Alum Bay, the stratum immediately next to the flinty chalk, and consequently deposited upon it, consists of a white chalk marl, without flints. Its nature is sufficiently shown by its pulverizing with the frost, and the rains wash it down, so that its situation is marked by a deep hollow. There is some appearance here, therefore, of a transition of the last portions of the chalk into the clay, which succeeded it; the usual rounded flint pebbles over the chalk, and the other signs of disturbance being there wanting, it is possible that we have, in that place, the original succession of depositions.

The clay and sand cliffs of Alum Bay afford one of the most interesting natural sections that can well be imagined. They exhibit the actual state of the strata immediately over the chalk before any change took place in the position of the latter; for although the beds of which they are composed are quite vertical, yet, from the nature and variety of their composition, from the great regularity and numerous alternations of the layers, and the other circumstances which have been already mentioned, no one who has viewed them with attention can believe that they have suffered any change, except that of having been moved with the chalk from the horizontal to the vertical position.

The whole of these strata have evidently been formed at the bottom of an ocean, from the nature of the fossils contained in them, which, although entirely different from those of the chalk, are yet all of marine origin.

The chalk which forms the side of Alum Bay is somewhat harder than usual, and the flints are shivered, so as to fall to pieces on being taken out.

Next to the chalk, on the North, stands the bed of chalk marl, which has been already mentioned.

To this succeeds a thick bed of clay, of a dark red colour, often streaked, or mottled with yellow and white; towards the South side is a thin layer of greenish grey sand. This is divided by a bed of yellowish white sand from a very thick bed of dark blue clay, which contains much green earth; and also nodules of a dark-

coloured limestone, in which were found a few fossil shells; this bed, however, we are inclined to think, is not continuous for a great extent, as, in a part of the cliff further inland, and in the line of its direction, it had almost disappeared.

Next follows a vast succession of beds of sand of different colours, which, though not distinctly separable from each other, yet may be considered as divided into the following:—

Greenish yellow sand;

Yellow sand, with ferruginous masses;

Greenish sand;

Yellow, white, and greenish sand;

Whitish sand, with thin stripes of clay;

White and yellow sand;

Light green sand;

Ferruginous sandstone; and

· Yellow sand, with a few red stripes.

Next to this, and in the middle of the bay, is a very numerous succession of beds, which contain a large proportion of pipe-clay of various colours, white, yellow, grey, and blackish; these alternate with beautifully-coloured sands. The clay is sometimes in beds several feet in thickness, without any admixture, and sometimes in laminee not a quarter of an inch thick, with sand between them. They are generally as follow:—

Blackish clay, with stripes of white sand;

Sand intensely yellow; and

Very white sand. In the middle of this there is a layer of small siliceous nodules, quite white, easily frangible, and of an earthy texture; they are water worn, and seem to have been derived from decomposed flints.

Sand of a crimson colour;

Pipe-clay, with sand stripes. Here it runs into the sea, and may be traced across the beach.

Yellow sand, with some crimson;

Pipe-clay, white and black, with stripes of sand. In the middle, these three beds are of a sort of wood coal, the vegetable origin of which is distinctly pointed out by the fruits and branches still to be observed in it. It sometimes splits into irregular layers, in the direction of the bed, and the cross feature is dull and earthy. It burns with difficulty, and with very little flame, giving out a sulphureous smell.

Yellow and white sand, with crimson and grey stripes;

Five beds of coal similar to that above mentioned, each a foot thick; Whitish sand, and brownish pipe-clay;

Whitish sand, with stripes of deep yellow;

Several layers of large water-worn black flint pebbles, imbedded in deep yellow sand:

A stratum of blackish clay, with much green earth and septaria. In this green earth are a prodigious number of fossil shells, but in a very fragile state. They correspond exactly with those of Stubbington and Hordwell.

A stream of water from the adjoining hill has worn a deep channel through the stratum, and affords a path down to the bay.

To the North of this, the strata consist of yellowish sand; and it is not easy to see what is really the position of those beds which lie immediately next to the blue clay, but they appear to dip about 45° to the North; and the sand lying on them is nearly horizontal.

The North side of Alum Bay is bounded by a hill, called Headon, about 400 feet high, considerably higher than the vertical cliffs, and composed of the same part of that series of horizontal strata of which the North side of the island consists. In this hill only do we distinctly see the alternation mentioned, of marine and fresh-water deposits. It is in a state of constant ruin; and, by its section, affords lofty vertical cliffs, where its strata may be examined with the utmost facility.

The last-mentioned sand is the lowest stratum there visible. It is above thirty feet in thickness, beautifully white, and in it several pits are annually dug, from which the manufactories are supplied with their materials for the best flint glass. This sand may be traced round the foot of the hill on the North side, and forms the bottom of Totland and Colwell Bays, dipping gradually to the North.

Over it lies a horizontal bed of black clay, which contains fossil shells, and sometimes selenite.

Upon reviewing the whole of this lower marine series of strata, in Alum Bay, and comparing it with other sections of the strata immediately over the chalk, we shall find it useful, for the present at least, to separate it into two great divisions:—1. Sand and plastic clay;—2. London clay. The plastic clay and sand is always below, and never above the London clay.

1. Sand and plastic clay. In the Isle of Wight, clay is next to the chalk. The beds of plastic clay in the Isle of Wight are of unusual extent and thickness; they extend quite across the island, in a vertical position, keeping parallel to the chalk, and appearing again at White Cliff Bay on the East end, where they are however much concealed by grassy slopes. In Alum Bay, beds of iron-stone and ferruginous sand occur, connected with this clay, and generally lying over it.

A stratum of sand, containing green particles, frequently occurs near the chalk. It is seen in Alum Bay without fossils. This green sand is easily distinguished from that below the chalk, as it is never indurated.

2. London, or blue clay. The stratum which has received this denomination is found immediately under the gravelly soil on which the metropolis is situated. Of all the strata over chalk in this country, it is of the greatest extent and thickness, and the number, beauty, and variety of the organic fossils which it contains, renders it the most interesting and the most easily recognizable.

It consists generally of a blackish clay, sometimes very tough, at other places mixed with green earth and sand, or with calcareous matter. It contains also numerous flat spheroidal nodules of indurated marl, or argillaceous limestone, which lie in regular horizontal layers, at unequal distances, generally from four to ten feet apart. These nodules are well known by the name of Ludus Helonontii, or Septaria, from their being divided, across, by partions, or veins of calcareous spar, which are generally double. In their cavities are generally found crystals of calcareous spar, and of

sulphat of barytes. The septaria are surrounded by crusts, which contain a smaller proportion of carbonate of lime than the central part; they often include organic remains.

Besides the clay, marl, sand, and carbonate of lime, of which the main body of this stratum consists, several other substances are dispersed through it in smaller quantities. Of these, the chief is sulphuret of iron, which is frequently the mineralizing matter both of the vegetable and animal remains included in the blue clay.

Selenite is very abundant; and sulphat of iron frequently effloresces when the clay is exposed to the air, from the decomposition of the pyrites contained in it. Phosphat of iron is also sometimes found.

On account of these salts, the water which is contained in this stratum, is not fit for domestic purposes. Wells are therefore generally sunk entirely through it, to the sand below.

In the country round London, this sand, which belongs to the plastic clay, is the great reservoir of water, which generally bursts out with great violence when broken into.

Sulphat of magnesia has long been known in the springs at Epson, which village has given its name to this salt. Its origin, however, does not appear to have been clearly ascertained; although, from its situation, it may be supposed to belong to some of the beds above the chalk. We derive from Mr. Tennant, the information, that the London clay abounds in Epsom salts. The bricks of old buildings in London, after fine dry weather, are covered with an efflorescence of this salt. This may be seen in the walls of the Temple.

Some of the clays in Alum Bay appeared so very promising, that the late Mr. Wedgwood had pits opened; but, though extremely refractory, they were found, upon trial, not to burn sufficiently white for the purpose required.

No shells have been found in the pure clays of Alum Bay. In the stratum of blue clay next to the deep red clay that adjoins the chalk of Alum Bay, there are septaria, with fossil shells, among which are found cytherææ and turritellæ; the rest were too much mutilated. Hence it would appear, that no fossil organic bodies are disseminated through the pure plastic clays, but that they are to be found in such beds of this clay as are impure.

The lower fresh-water formation is distinctly traced in Headon Hill, which forms the Northern boundary of Alum Bay. It appears in a series of beds of sandy calcareous and argillaceous marls, lying immediately upon the black clay that covers the white sand. described in the account of Alum Bay. They are extremely irregular, and are not to be traced distinctly from each other for more than about a few hundred yards, the remaining part being so hid by the mouldering slope, that the formation can only be observed in mass. It may be seen, however, extending round the North side of Headon into Totland Bay, where it forms the upper part of the cliff; and at the point called Warden Ledge, it is found in a more uniform and indurated state. Here, when the clay upon which it rests gives way, from the rain and frost, large masses of the marl fall down, which are employed for the purposes of building, though the stone is not of a good quality. Pursuing it further into Colwell Bay, it dips to the North, and is soon lost; nor is it to be seen any more on that side Yarmouth. At the bottom of these beds, and between them and the black clay, there is frequently a laver, of two inches or more in thickness, of a dark brown coaly matter, much like what is usually found at the bottom of peat bogs; and it appears to be a similar substance that tinges many of the beds. On a careful examination, there was not any mixture of marine shells discovered in this series of beds; had they existed. it is probable their remains would have been evident, considering how much thicker and stronger marine shells in general are than those of fresh water.

The upper marine formation appears half way up the cliff, and is about thirty-six feet in thickness, dipping a few degrees to the North; it passes from thence all round Totland and Colwell Bays.

The strata of Headon Hill, is as follo	w, from the top :
1. Alluvium	112 feet, in the centre.
2. Upper fresh-water formation	122
3. Upper marine formation	36
4. Lower fresh-water formation	63
5. Clay	. 35
6. Sand	50

In Colwell Bay, at a fissure called Brambles Chine, there is, in the strata of upper marine formation, a very large bank of fossil oyster shells; the greater part of which are locked into each other in the way in which they usually live, and many have their valves united, thereby evidently proving that this oyster-bed has never suffered a removal.

The series of strata to be traced through the island, from East to West, consisting of the very thick stratum of clay and sand, the flinty chalk, the chalk without flints, the chalk marl, the green sandstone, with limestone and chert, the dark grey marl, and the ferruginous sand, are distinctly observable at Alum Bay, the Needles, and Compton Bay.

At Calbourne and Thorley, several quarries are opened, and yield an excellent stone, of the upper fresh-water formation.

The strata of Black Gang are nearly similar to those of Red Cliff, in Sandown Bay, to which they belong, although very different in their inclination. They may be easily examined in the way to the beach through the Chine. Their order is as follows:—

- 1. A stratum of gravel.
- A small portion of the red ferruginous sand, corresponding to what has been already described under the dark grey marl.
 - 3. A stratum of yellow sand.
 - 4. Black shale, with thin layers of white sand.
 - 5. White, and bright orange-coloured sandstone.
 - 6. Blackish ferruginous sand, mixed with shale and white sand.
 - 7. The same as No. 5.
 - 8. Black plastic clay, mixed with thin layers of white sand.

9. Sand, mixed with shale, and very strongly impregnated with iron. This last stratum is of great thickness, extending to the beach, and is that in which the singular hollow is formed, by the water-fall that comes over it.

Most of these strata are so slightly cemented, that large masses of them may be reduced to the state of sand by a slight blow; and this observation applies also to the lowest stratum, although oxyde of iron deposited on the surface by the water which flows over it, has formed a ferruginous crust on the outside. In this respect, it is exactly similar to the lowest stratum of Luccombe Chine. More of this stratum is, however, exposed to view here than at Luccombe, the top of it being much higher above the sea.

The general dip of the strata of this part of the island is a few degrees to the North-East. Hence, though the top of Shanklin Down is not much lower than St. Catherine's, when compared with the level of the sea, yet the thickness of the stratum of chalk or marl over the sandstone, on the former, is greater than on the latter hill.

Since the sandstone stratum is seen breaking out on the North side of Shanklin Down, at Cook's Castle, and on the South-East side of the same hill, above Dunnose, and may be traced Westward to Gore Cliff, and again on the West side of St. Catherine's Hill, there is no doubt but that it is a continuous bed, of which the above-mentioned places are the boundaries, and upon which all the Southern chalk or marl hills rest; viz. those of Shanklin, Dunnose, St. Boniface, Week, and St. Catherine.

The strata of St. Catherine's Hill consist of

Chalk:

Chalk marl:

Green sand:

Blue marl; and

Upper ferruginous sand, the whole of the strata having an inclination to the North-East.

4.-From St. Catherine's to Brading Haven.

The Undercliff.—The strata forming the perpendicular rocks of this singular district, consist of sandstone and chert, standing on a stratum of marl, of a dark grey or blackish colour.

From the Orchard to Steephill, is a line of lofty cliffs, of the sandstone and chert stratum, leaning forward in the most threatening manner; the way under them being almost impassable, from the number and immense size of the masses of rock that have fallen down, and which lie in very picturesque positions. This place, called Western Lines, extends about half a mile, and is found to be an excellent spot for the study of this interesting stratum. From the mixture of cliff and sloping banks, every part of it may be easily examined; and in some places, where the rock has lately fallen, the internal structure may be seen, unaltered by the weather. It may therefore be proper, here, to collect into one view the remarks made upon it by Mr. Webster, not only at Western Lines, but in other parts of this island.

The stratum alluded to is that which, in the English series, is situated immediately under the chalk marl, and which, from its frequently containing a considerable quantity of green earth, has been called the green sandbed, or green sandstone. In the Isle of Wight, it is about 70 feet thick, and is subdivided by subordinate beds of other substances.

The great mass of this formation may be considered as consisting of siliceous sand, mixed with mica, green earth, and a considerable quantity of calcareous matter. In the upper part there are a number of irregular layers of chert, alternating with the sandstone with which it is sometimes mixed in a very singular manner. Between some of the layers of chert, the sand is white, and perfectly loose; in other places it is cemented, more or less, by different quantities of calcareous matter. On some parts, the flint and sand seem mixed, as if they had been rolled together when the former was in a semi-fluid state; and this in various proportions: in others

the detached masses and layers of chert are intersected by numerous veins of calcedony. About thirty feet from the top, there is a bed of sandstone about four feet thick, of a very good quality, for the purposes of building, which extends all along the Undercliff. This stone cuts freely, in any direction, and is soft when just taken out of its bed, but hardens in the air, and is much employed in architecture. All the ancient Gothic churches on the South side of the island have been constructed of it, and many of them have a considerable quantity of carved work. It is frequently considered by the stonemasons as analogous to Portland stone, but improperly, as it differs essentially in quality, as well as in geognostic position. Below this bed the sandstone is soft, and unfit for building.

The remaining part of the stratum is divided, but unequally, by subordinate beds of limestone, of a blueish, and sometimes of a reddish colour, and also by layers of flattened nodules of the same substance; these last are usually reddish on the outside, and blueish within; the limestone is here called Rag, and is a very durable material, but hard to cut. It is indeed identical with the well-known Kentish Rag.

The calcareous matter which is mixed with the sand in the freestone, and which forms its cement, is generally white, and very friable, but sometimes, as at the Western Lines, it is crystallized, forming with the sand a hard greenish grey rock; when this is the case, the masses which have fallen into the sea are of very great size, and are scarcely acted upon by the weather or the waves. Many of these rocks were covered with singular forms in relief, which, after a close examination, were ascertained to be derived from a fossil organic body, of a new and interesting character. They have been noticed at Ventnor Cove, and other parts of the green sandstone stratum, where they assumed the appearance of silicified branches enclosed in the rock. This resemblance to branches was indeed extremely striking, apparent cortical and woody parts being distinctly observable. Western Lines, however, afforded a great variety of specimens much more perfect, and this place enables us to obtain new ideas, with respect to their

origin. The conclusion which we have now formed is, that they belong to a species of zoophyte, or animal possessing a vegetable form.

Besides the forms of branches, there are, here, also numerous smooth cylinders, of about half an inch or more in diameter, and often several feet in length, which are very slightly tapering, seldom or ever straight, and generally much bent. To these are sometimes attached bulbous terminations, in which the organic structure is very distinct, consisting of slender tubes passing longitudinally through them.

Although these animal remains sometimes penetrate the solid masses of rock in all directions, they are most abundant between the beds, where they lie heaped in confusion, across each other, in prodigious multitudes. The branched forms are from less than half an inch to four inches in diameter, and numerous heads, or bulbs, surrounded also by a seeming cortical envelopment, are dispersed among them; they are accompanied by another set of appearances, which consist of figures like delineations upon the surface of the rocks, as circles, ellipses, and parallel lines, of a whitish colour. Those were afterwards found to be the various sections of the external cortex of the smooth cylinders, which, when in smooth sandstone, did not remain in relief.

The number of these curious organic bodies is astonishing; while the infinite variety of their positions, the elegance and grace of the curves they present, the sharpness and perfection of some parts and the almost obliterated appearance of others, now enticing one to an attentive examination and then baffling the curiosity thus raised, could not fail of exciting the most lively interest. Although the specimens are so abundant, it is difficult to detach them from the rock without injury. This fossil has proved to be a species of alcyonium.

Near the top of the slope of St. Boniface Down, in the steepest part of it, is a small spring, famous by the name of St. Boniface Well, and regarded by the people with a sort of religious veneration. It is accessible only by a very steep path, or rather a rude flight of steps, worn in the turf. A spring at this height, is a most remarkable circumstance, and the only instance of the kind in the whole range.

The strata of Redcliff and the Culver Cliffs, approach nearly to the vertical position of that of Alum Bay, and may be thus arranged, commencing with the lower ferruginous sand of Redcliff.

- 1. Lower ferruginous sand.
- 5. Green sand.

2. Weald clay.

- 6. Chalk marl.
- 3. Upper ferruginous sand.
- 7. Chalk.

4. Blue marl.

Numerous blocks of the calcareous strata, formed by the upper fresh-water formation, may be found loose in the soil at Bembridge. The rocks at Bembridge Ledge and Whitecliff Bay are referable to this formation.

In the year 1819, Mr. Webster, in company with Mr. Brooke, found a small organic body, supposed to be a cypris, in the weald clay in Sandown Bay, together with paludinæ, and the teeth of fish. Annals of Philos., vol. xxv., p. 47.

Organic remains found in the Lower Marine Formation above the chalk, in the Isle of Wight.

NAMES GIVEN BY LAMARCK.	LINNEAN NAMES.
Olivæ	Voluta.
Voluta spinosa	Strombus spinosus.
cerenulata	Murex suspensus.
	Voluta ampullaria.
Buccinum undatum	
Pleurotoma	
Turritella terebellata	Turbo terebra.
imbricatoria	editus.
multisulcata	vagus.
Chama sulcata	
Pyrus bulbiformis	

Upper Marine Formation.

NAMES GIVEN BI LAMARCE.	LIMMEAN	MARLS.
Cerithium plicatum		
•		
——— mutabile	36 :	
semicoronatum }	Murices.	
cinctum		
turritellatum		
— tricarinatum		
Cyclas deltoidea		
Cytheræa scultellaria	Venus.	
Ancilla buccinoides	Voluta.	
subulata	Voluta.	
Ampullaria spirata	Helices.	
depressa	Hences.	
Murex reticulatus		
Bivalve, apparently of the genus		
Erycina		
Helicina		
Murex nodularius		
Melania. They are, however,		
too much injured about the		
mouth to determine their		
genus with certainty		
Another species of Melania,		
corresponding with those		
of Plumstead		
Natica Canrena	Nerita.	
Ostrea, approaching to deltoidea		
Ostrea specific, not evident, but		
different from the last		
Ampullaria	Holiv	
Ampuliaria		

NAMES GIVEN BY LAMARCK.	LINNEAN NAMES.
Planorbis, much resembling	
that which Brongniart says	
approaches to P. cornu Planorbis, two other species	Helix Planorbis.
Planorbis, two other species	
prevostinus	
•	
Limneus longiscatus	Helix stagnalis.
acuminatus	
coneus	
longiscatus	
Gyrogonites	
Striated seeds of a flattened	
oval form, with parts of	
coleopterous	
	-
16 D	6 27 6
M. Brongniart has enumerated the j	
<i>yor</i>	Limneus fabulum.
	ventricosus.
Cyclostoma elegansantiquum	
Potamides Lamarckii •	
Planorbis rotundatus	
cornu	
— comu	Helix lemani.
prevostinus	
Limneus corneus	
minimicus comicus	a hrogomices.

* It is proper to observe, that the Potamides of Lamarck is a Cerithium. But having considered the cerithia as marine shells, he thought it proper, on finding a species among the fresh-water shells, to regard this as of a distinct genus, founding the distinction, not on any difference in its form, but on the difference of the water in which it had lived.

The last-mentioned fossil, to which Lamarck has given the name of Gyrogonites, is a small globular canellated body, about the size of a mustard seed. The specimens of the French fossils of this species, in the possession of the Geological Society, are extremely perfect, and correspond exactly to those found in the Isle of Wight. They are very numerous in the fresh-water stone at Gurnet Point; but they are there only to be seen in casts. In the numerous portions of a thin calcareous bed of a highly crystalline structure, which lie scattered on the shore at Cowes (but which are not found in sits), these Gyrogonites are mixed with cerithia, bivalves, and a species of serpula, all these shells being in a whitened state. Recent observations have shown it to be the petrified seed of a species of chara.

Several successive eras appear to be ascertainable in the geological history of the Isle of Wight.

- That in which its strata were formed in an horizontal position, at the bottom of a pre-existent ocean.
- 2. That in which the horizontality of its strata was changed, either by elevation or subsidence.
- 3. That during which (according to the suppositions thus advanced) the basin, thus formed, was filled with a series of new depositions; the latest formed strata now in Britain. Should it be afterwards made to appear more probable that these last strata have been deposited *prior* to the change of position of the vertical strata, this period of time will be included in the first.
- 4. That in which was carried away a great portion of the mass of all the strata indiscriminately, at the same time depositing some of the ruins or fragments on the new surface. To this must be attributed the formation of its soil, or external covering, which has been produced by the mixture of the calcareous, argillaceous, and sandy strata, of which it originally consisted.
- The retiring of the denudating cause, leaving the land, as it now appears.

ARRANGEMENT AND NAMES OF THE BEDS.

PRESENT ARRANGEMENT. PLACES WHERE THE BEDS ARE	Culver Cliffs, in Sandown Bay. Sandown Bay, St. Catherine's Down.	Upper green sand Sandown Bay, Undercliff. Gault Ditto.	Red Cliff, in Sandown Bay. Black Gang, Compton.	Weald clay Weald clay Sandown Bay, Cowleaze Chine.	Lower ferruginous sand Ferruginous sand Hastings sand Sandown Bay, Cowleaze
PRESENT ARRANGEME	Chalk Chalk Chalk marl	Upper green sand	Lower green sand	Weald clay	Hastings sand
BY MR. CONYBEARE.	Chalk	Chalk marl	Green sand	Weald clay	Ferruginous sand
BY MR. WEBSTER.	Chalk	Green sand	Ferruginous sand Green sand Lower green sand	Weald clay	Lower ferruginous sand

INSCRIPTION FOR A MONUMENT.

To the Memory of those Sailors, whose bodies were (after the wreck of the Royal George, who sunk at her anchors, at Spithead, in the year 1782) cast upon the beach at Ryde, in the Isle of Wight, and buried in a small meadow, under the Woods of St. John's, near that place, called "The Dover."

THOU! who dost tread this smooth and verdant mead. Viewing, delighted, the fair hills that rise On either hand, a sylvan theatre: While in the front, with snowy pinions closed, And thunders silent, Britain's guardian fleet On the deep bosom of the azure sea Reposes awful; pass not heedless by These mould'ring heaps, which the blue spiry grass Scarce guards from mingling with the common earth. Mark! in how many a melancholy rank The graves are marshall'd. Dost thou know the fate Disastrous, of their tenants? Hushed the winds, And smooth the billow, when an unseen hand Smote the great ship, and rift her massy beams : She reeled, and sunk. Over her swarming decks The flashing wave in horrid whirlpool rushed: While, from a thousand throats, one wailing shriek Burst.-and was heard no more.

Then, day by day,

The ebbing tide left frequent on the sand
The livid corpse. And his o'erloaded net
The shuddering fisher loathed to drag ashore.
And here, by friends unknown, unmarked, unwept,
They rest.—Refuse not thou a passing sigh,
And wish of quiet consummation,
For in thy country's service these men died.

1801.

SIR H. C. ENGLEFIELD.

ROYAL YACHT CLUB,

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1812.

THE KING.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF GLOUCESTER.

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[Corrected to July 1832.]

- A Union Jack with white border, hoisted over or between Numeral Flags, refers to the Yachts' Numbers;—under them expresses the names of the Honorary Members.
- The Jack over the Numeral Flags from 1 to 99, denotes the Names under 100, and the Jack between the Numeral Flags, denotes the Names whose numbers are above 100.
- The Flag Blue Pierced White, hoisted under a Signal, shows that it refers to the Navy List in the Signal Book.
- The Navy demand to show Numbers. A Union Jack over a Pendant quartered Red and White.

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