

A
DICTIONARY
OF
PRINTERS AND PRINTING
WITH THE
Progress of Literature,
ANCIENT AND MODERN;
BIBLIOGRAPHICAL ILLUSTRATIONS,
ETC. ETC.
BY C. H. TIMPERLEY.

“If asked, why Printers and Booksellers in particular?—I answer, they are a valuable class of the community—the friendly assistants, at least, if not the patrons of literature—and I myself one of the fraternity—let the members of other professions, if they approve of the suggestion, in like manner record the meritorious actions of their brethren.”—JOHN NICHOLS.

LONDON:
H. JOHNSON, 49, PATERNOSTER ROW;
FRASER & CO. EDINBURGH; SYMINGTON & CO. GLASGOW; CURRY & CO.
DUBLIN; AND BANCKS & CO. MANCHESTER.
MDCCCXXXIX.

1744, Jan. *The Meddler*, No. 1.

1744, April 1. *The Female Spectator*, monthly. This periodical was the production of Mrs. Eliza Heywood,* and was carried on till March, 1746. As soon as completed, they were immediately collected into four volumes 12mo., and have gone through several impressions. The seventh and last was printed in 1771.

1745. *The Biographia Britannica* commenced. This work was undertaken by John Campbell, and published in weekly numbers. It was completed in seven volumes folio. In 1777 a new edition was begun under the superintendence of Dr. Andrew Kippis; it is a work of considerable magnitude, and still holds a respectable station in our national literature.

1745, Oct. 19. *Died*, JONATHAN SWIFT, the celebrated dean of St. Patrick's, Dublin. Of a life so various, and so full of business as Swift's we know not what part we could select consistent with the limits of this work, that would not rather excite curiosity than gratify it. Swift was born in Dublin, November 30, 1667, at No. 7, Hoey's-court. The earlier part of his life was spent chiefly in England, and in connexion with the Whigs; he afterwards became a Tory,† and was the friend of Pope, Bolingbroke, and other wits of that party. His works are chiefly of a political character, and were written only to serve a temporary end; yet they are such models of satirical composition, that they still continue to form a constituent portion of every good English library. They are written with great plainness, force, and intrepidity, and

* Eliza Heywood was the daughter of a tradesman, and born in London in 1693. She early imbibed a taste for dramatic poetry and the stage; and having received a good education, and, though not beautiful, possessing a fine person, she made her appearance on the Dublin stage in 1715. Neither in this attempt, however, nor in writing for the stage, had she any success, and, therefore, turned her attention to novel writing, in which her first productions, entitled the *Court of Caramania*, and the *New Etopia*, owing to their immorality, involved her in considerable disgrace. Her subsequent life and writings, however, amply atoned for the errors of her youth; as she became undeviatingly correct in the former, and in the latter it was her constant aim to inculcate the purest precepts of morality and decorum. Her imagination was fertile, her industry great, and in the course of the last twelve years of her life, she produced, in all, nineteen volumes 12mo, independent of pamphlets and miscellaneous pieces. She died in 1756, in the sixty-fourth year of her age.

† Hallam, in his *Constitutional History*, thus describes the two great parties which have so long divided the state:—"These parties differ above all in this respect, that to a tory, the constitution merely as such, is an extreme point, beyond which he never ventures to look, and from which he holds it impossible ever to depart, while a whig regards all forms of government as subordinate to the public good, and consequently subject to modification when they cease to answer their ends. Within these limits, to which he confines himself as religiously as the tory to his narrower circumspection, the whig, rejecting all useless innovations, has a natural tendency to, and the tory a marked aversion for, all political amelioration. The one insists with pleasure on the liberty and rights of the human race; the other declaims on the evils of sedition, and the rights of kings. Though both admit as a common principle the maintenance of the constitution, yet the one has particularly at heart the privileges of the people, and the other the prerogative of the crown. Accordingly it is possible that passions and events may conduct the tory to set up a despotism, and the whig to overturn the monarchy. The first is an enemy to the liberty of the press and free enquiry; the second is favourable to both. In a word, the principle of one is conservation, that of the other amelioration."

always advance at once to the matter in dispute. Their distinguishing feature, however, is the force and vehemence of the invective in which they abound; the copiousness, the steadiness, the perseverance, and the dexterity, with which abuse and ridicule are showered upon the adversary. This was, beyond all doubt, Swift's great talent, and the weapon by which he made himself formidable. His earliest work of importance was his *Tale of a Tub*, published anonymously in 1704, and designed as a burlesque of the disputes among the Catholics, Episcopalians, and Presbyterians. For some years after, he was employed entirely in political and occasional writings, the most remarkable of which was his pamphlet called *The Conduct of the Allies*, published in 1711, by which he disposed the nation to submit to a peace, then anxiously desired by the ministry. The displacement of his party in 1714, by George I., sent him into retirement in Ireland, and he scarcely resumed his pen till 1724, when he published a series of letters under the signature of M. B. Drapier, already alluded to. By these and other tracts, in behalf of the popular party in Ireland, he became the idol of the common people, and is said to have possessed far more real power than the highest of the constituted authorities. An archbishop, who was also a lord-justice of the kingdom, once taxed him with exasperating the mob; when Swift promptly refuted the charge by saying, "If I had lifted up my little finger they would have torn you to pieces." These writings, however, did not so much proceed from any real sympathy with the people, as from a hatred of the party who had then possession of the government. The most perfect of the larger compositions of Swift, and that by which he will probably be longest remembered, is the extraordinary work called *Gulliver's Travels*,* which appeared in 1726, and was altogether a novelty in English literature. Its main design is, under the form of fictitious travels, to satirize mankind and the institutions of civilized countries; but the scenes and nations which it describes are so wonderful and amusing, that the book is as great a favourite with children, as with those who delight in contemplating the imperfections of human nature. The curiosity it excited at its first appearance was unbounded; it was the universal topic of discourse; prints from it filled the shop windows; it gave denominations to fashions; and, what is a stronger proof of its popularity, it introduced words which have become a part of the English language. In the latter part of his life, he published another burlesque on the social world, under the title of *Polite Conversation*, being an almost exact representation of the unpremeditated talk of ordinary persons. A still more ludicrous and satirical work appeared after his death, under the title of *Directions to Servants*.† Swift also wrote many letters, which rank among the best compositions of that kind in the language, and a considerable number of satirical and humorous poems. The chief characteristics of his prose are,

* It is said that Swift never received any money for his writings, except for *Gulliver's Travels*; when Pope interfered with the bookseller, and obtained £300 for the copy, which had been dropt from a coach window at the bookseller's door late one night.

† Printed by George Faulkner, Dublin, who, writing to Mr. W. Bowyer, says, "as you are famous for writing prefaces, pray help me to one for *Advice to Servant*." November, 1745. The principal Interest which Faulkner could claim in the dean was his having suffered from political prosecution, a fate which, sooner or later, befel most of Swift's publishers.

the extensive command which he was to have possessed over the stores of colloquial language, and the nerve and precision with which he employs it. His great art in satire, is to write as if he were a very simple man, and thus to treat vices, follies, and imperfections without the least scruple or disguise, and consequently to display them in their utmost possible deformity.

In the year 1716, Swift was privately married by Dr. Ashe, then bishop of Clogher, to a lady whom he has celebrated under the name of Stella: she was the daughter of Mr. Johnson, steward to sir William Temple, when at his death left her £1000 in consideration of her father's faithful services. She was a person of great delicacy, extremely beautiful, and equally remarkable for the sweetness of her temper and the poignancy of her wit; her understanding is of the first class, her prudence uncommon, and her piety exemplary. She was guided by virtue in morality, and by sincerity in religion. She had great skill in music, and was perfectly well acquainted with all the lesser arts that employ a lady's leisure. The dean became acquainted with her while he lived with sir William Temple. When she left England is not known; but they continued in the same economy after marriage as before; he living at the deanery, and she in lodgings on the other side of the Liffy. He never openly acknowledged her as his wife, nor was there any thing in their behaviour inconsistent with decorum, or beyond the limits of Platonic love. And such care was always taken to summon witnesses, that perhaps it would be impossible to prove their having been ever together but in the presence of at least a third person. A conduct so very extraordinary in itself could not fail of giving rise to various reflections. But this is one of those actions whose true sources perhaps will never be discovered.

In 1736 Swift was seized with a violent fit of giddiness when he was writing a satirical poem, called the *Legion Club*, which was so dreadful, that he left the poem unfinished, and never after attempted a composition of any length either in verse or prose. From the year 1739 till the latter end of 1741, his friends found his passions so violent and ungovernable, his memory so decayed, and his reason so depraved, that they were obliged to keep all strangers from him; for till then he had not appeared totally incapable of conversation; but at the beginning of the year 1742, the small remains of his understanding became entirely confused, and his rage increased absolutely to a degree of madness. In this miserable state he continued for some time; but at last sunk into a quiet, speechless, idiot, dragging out the remainder of his life in that helpless situation. Swift for some years before this terrible catastrophe, was often attacked with giddiness, and found his memory gradually decay, which gave him reason to apprehend his fate. He left all his fortune, which, when some few legacies were paid, amounted to near £11,000, to build and endow an hospital for idiots and lunatics. A charity remarkably generous, as the unhappy persons who receive the benefit, must for ever remain insensible of their benefactor. Thus died Dr. Swift, whose capacity and strength of mind were undoubtedly equal to any task whatever. His pride, or to use a softer name, his ambition, was boundless; but his views were checked in his younger years, and the effects of that disappointment were

visible in all his actions. He was sour and severe, but not absolutely ill-natured. He was sociable only to particular friends, and only to them at particular hours. He was by his abilities rendered superior to envy. He was undisguised and perfectly serene. He performed the duties of the church with great punctuality, and a decent degree of devotion. He read prayers rather in a strong nervous voice than in a graceful manner; and, although he has often been accused of irreligion, nothing of that kind appeared in his conversation or behaviour.* In his friendships he was constant and undisguised. He was the same in his enmities. He generally spoke as he thought, in all companies, and at all seasons.

1745. The following booksellers appear in the list of bankrupts: CÆSAR WARD, of York; WILLIAM RAVEN, of St. Andrew's, Holborn, *November*; and THOMAS HARRIS, of London Bridge, *December*.

1745, *Dec. 24. The Manchester Magazine*, of this date, gives a circumstantial account of the movements of the army under prince Charles Edward, during its progress to the south. Some of the adherents of the prince, during his stay in Manchester, went to the printing-office of Mr. Whitworth, proprietor of the *Magazine*, and compelled Thomas Bradbury, a journeyman, (in the absence of his master) to print several manifestos and other papers, which were produced on their trial and led to their condemnation. Mr. Whitworth continued his newspaper till about the year 1750, but his death we cannot find.

1745. *The British Courant; or Preston Journal*, printed by James Stanley and John Moon, at their shop in the market-place, Preston. This newspaper is embellished with a wood-cut on each side of the title-page, viz. the holy lamb, couchant, being the arms of the town; and Britannia, the genius of England.

1745. *The Agreeable Miscellany; or, something to please every man's taste*. Printed by Mr. Ashburner, at Kendal, in Westmoreland. This was a small pamphlet-like miscellany, in sixteen 8vo. pages, published once a fortnight, price one penny.

1745. *The Remembrancer*. This was a weekly paper undertaken by Mr. James Ralph, a short time previous to the rebellion, to serve the purposes of lord Melcombe's party; and in his lordship's *Diary* Ralph is frequently mentioned with distinguished approbation.

* The only preferments which Swift obtained in Ireland, previous to the deanery of St. Patricks, was Laracor and Rathbeggan; the former of which was worth about £200 per annum, and the latter about £60. When he took possession of these two livings, he went to reside at Laracor, and gave public notice to his parishioners, that he intended to lead prayers every Wednesday and Friday. Upon the subsequent Wednesday, the bell was rung, and the rector attended at his desk, when, after having sat some time, and finding the congregation to consist only of himself and his clerk, Roger, he began: "Dearly beloved Roger, the scripture moveth you and me in sundry places," and then proceeded regularly through the whole service.

1745, Nov. 5. *The True Patriot*. This periodical was written by Henry Fielding, who, zealously attached to the house of Hanover and the protectant religion, exerted all his efforts in their cause, and it was not without its effect in exciting the 'sentments of loyalty, and a love for the constitution in the breasts of his countrymen.

1745. *The Entertainer*, No. 1.

1746, Jan. 10. In the *Caledonian Mercury* of this date we find the following notice. "The rebels carried off from Glasgow a printing press, types, and other materials for printing (printing Prince Charles's Declaration, &c.) together with servants to work in that way." They took from one printer a press, from another some types, and from a third chases, furniture, &c. This happened when the insurgents were on their final retreat northward.

1746. The following names appear in the list of bankrupts: DRYDEN LEACH, printer, of St. Paul's, Covent Garden; Andrew Johannot, of Eynsford, Kent, paper maker; and William Smith, stationer, of Preston, Lancashire.

1746. HENRY FIELDING produced his inimitable novel of *Tom Jones*. Whether we consider the fruitfulness of its invention, the admirable delineation and variety of its characters, the conduct of the story, or the winding up of the whole, it will probably ever continue to be one of the most popular novels ever written. It is said, that Fielding being much distressed, sold the copy to a bookseller for £25, on condition of being paid by a certain day. In the meantime, he showed the manuscript to Thomson, author of the *Seasons*, who was immediately struck with its merit, and advised Fielding by all means to get free from the bargain, which he did without much difficulty. Thomson recommended the work to Andrew Millar, the noted bookseller, and the parties met at a tavern over a beef-steak and a bottle. Mr. Millar began with saying, "Mr. Fielding, I always determine on affairs of this sort at once, and never change my offer, I will not give one farthing more than £200." "£200!" cried Fielding. "Yes," said Millar, "and not one farthing more." Fielding, whose surprise arose from joy, and not disappointment, shook him by the hand, sealed the bargain, and ordered in two bottles of wine. Mr. Millar got a very large sum by the sale of the work. He, at different times during his life, assisted Fielding to the amount of £2,500, which debt he cancelled in his will.

1746, April. *The Aberdeen Journal, or North British Magazine*, published by Mr. James Chalmers, printer to the town and university of Aberdeen. This was the first newspaper or periodical work in the north of the Frith of Forth, and the origin of it was the account which he printed of the battle of Culloden. From some cause, however, the paper was not finally established till the month of January, 1748.

1746, July 20. *The Fool*, No. 1. This" paper, chiefly devoted to politics, was published for about eight months in the *Daily Gazetteer*.

1746, Aug. 2. *The Parrot*. This was the production of Mrs. Haywood and her associates of the *Female Spectator*. It consists but of nine numbers, which were published weekly, price fourpence, and sold by Mr. Gardyner, Lincoln's Inn Fields.

1746. *Museum; or, Literary and Historical Register*, No. 1.

1747, March 15. *Died*, BENJAMIN NUTT, printer, in the Savoy. JOHN NUTT, bookseller, in the Savoy, died before 1716; his widow, Elizabeth, was living in 1736. EDWARD NUTT was a bookseller, at the Royal Exchange. There was a RICHARD NUTT, a printer, in the Savoy, who died March 11, 1780, aged eighty years.

1747. THOMAS HOWE, a native of Ireland, commenced the art of printing at Basseterre, the capital of the island of St. Christopher's, in the West Indies. The art may have been introduced two years earlier. See an account of George Howe, son of the above, under the year 1824.

1747, Aug. 7. *Died*, MICHAEL MAITTAIRE. He was born in the year 1668, and was no doubt of foreign extraction. He was the second master of Westminster school from 1695 till 1698. To him the republic of letters are indebted for many valuable and correct editions of the Greek and Latin classics.

In 1709 he gave the first specimen of his great skill in typographical antiquities, by publishing *Stephanorum Historia, Vitas ipsorum ac Libros complectens*, 8vo., which was followed in 1717 by *Historia Typographorum aliquot Parisiensium, Vitas et Libros complectens*, 8vo. In 1719, *Annales Typographici ab Artis inventæ Origin ad Annum MD. Hagæ Com.*, 4to. To this volume is prefixed *Epistolaris de antiquis Quintiliani Editionibus Dissertatio, clarissimo Viro D. Johanni Clerico*. The second volume divided into two parts, and continued to the year 1536, was published at the Hague in 1722, introduced by a letter of John Toland, under the title of *Conjectura verosimilis de prima Typographia Inventione*. The third volume, from the same press, in two parts, continued to 1557; and, by an Appendix to 1664, in 1725. In 1733 was published at Amsterdam what is usually considered as the fourth volume, under the title of *Annales Typographici ab Artis inventæ Origine, ad Annum 1664. Operâ Mich. Maittaire, A.M. Editio novo auctior et emendatior, Tomi Primi Pars posterior*. The awkwardness of this title has induced many collectors to dispose of their first volume, as thinking it superseded by the second edition; but this is by no means the case; the volume of 1719 being equally necessary to complete the sett as that of 1733, which is a revision of all the former volumes. In 1741 this excellent work was closed at London, by *Annalium Typographorum Tomus Quintus et ultimus; Indicem in Tomos quatuor præuntes complectens*; divided (like the two preceding volumes) into two parts. The whole work, therefore, when properly bound, consists either of five volumes, or of nine; and in nine volumes it was properly described in the catalogue of Dr. Askew, whose elegant copy was sold to Mr. Shaftoe for £10 5s.

1747, *Sept. 9. Died*, THOMAS RUDDIMAN, jun. principal manager of the *Caledonian Mercury*, to which office he had been appointed when James Grant* rushed into rebellion, in November, 1745. During these unsettled times the *Caledonian Mercury*† was regarded with peculiar jealousy, and its circulation was much impeded by the ruling powers in Scotland, even after the terrors of insurrection had ceased. For an unlucky paragraph, which had been copied from an English newspaper, in significant italics, was young Ruddiman imprisoned, in December, 1746. The merit and solicitude of his father, obtained his discharge at the end of six weeks imprisonment. But the prisoner had contracted a disease in the tolbooth of Edinburgh, which brought him to his grave at the early age of thirty-three years. His father sought consolation from his piety, as he could find no reparation for this wrong which was done by the jealousy, rather than the injustice of power.

It was stated by Mr. Boswell, “that Ruddiman’s son attended the pretender in his marches with his printing-press, and printed his declarations; and that, being for this imprisoned, Mr. Ruddiman, by the advice of lord Achinleck, applied for his discharge to Archibald duke of Argyle, by a letter, in which he called the late rebellion, the *late insurgency*, and by no persuasion, could he be made to alter it.” Let us examine, says Mr. Chalmers, this *honest tale* a little. The Ruddimans, indeed, may have printed the pretender’s declarations, while his power was irresistible at Edinburgh, while a sergeant and a guard surrounded the printing-house. But, neither the persons nor the press, for a moment attended the insurgents, who had no printer with them when they arrived at Glasgow. Thomas Ruddiman, the younger, was imprisoned, as we have seen, for adopting, at a subsequent period, a harmless sarcasm from an English newspaper.

From the death of his son, Mr. Ruddiman found it necessary to make a new arrangement of his typographical affairs, though it made little change in his usual habits. His daughter Alison, being her brother’s executor and heir, became in this manner proprietor of his share of the printing-house which he had enjoyed since the 13th of August, 1739. But her situation making the business of a printer an unsuitable property, she was thereby induced to convey her interest to her father. On May 16, 1748, Mr. Ruddiman entered into “a contract of copartnery,” with his brother Walter, “to carry on the printing business, and the newspaper, as formerly, share and share alike.” Considering that this project might be advantageous to their posterity, they

* James Grant had an equal share in the *Caledonian Mercury* with Thomas and Walter Ruddiman. Walter was the cashier, and Grant undertook to collect the foreign and domestic intelligence, to attend the press, and publish the paper, of which 1400 were sold every week. On Nov. 1, 1745, James Grant renounced his part, and sacrificing his prudence to his zeal, joined the insurgents, and finally found his safety in France.

† It was deemed prudent to publish the *Mercury* anonymously from Sept. 23, to Nov. 25, 1745; yet Ruddiman did not obtain impunity from his circumspection, and during the calamitous summer of 1745, he retired, from the disturbed scenes of Edinburgh, to the sequestered quiet of the country.

now settled the printing-house, and the *Caledonian Mercury*, on their nearest and lawful heirs respectively, in lineal descent.*

1747, Jan. *The Universal Magazine*, No. 1, published monthly, according to act of parliament, by John Hinton, at the King's Arms, in St. Paul's church yard, London, price sixpence.

At this period, copious, pompous, and florid title-pages, though reprobated by Swift, ridiculed by Arbuthnot, and cautiously launched by every respectable author, had yet, in defiance to common sense, obtained that kind of toleration that we often see given to things of far greater importance. And, it appears, that, a desire to repress it, first gave Mr. Griffiths the idea of the *Monthly Review*; as he says, in his first advertisement, "The abuse of title-pages is obviously come to such a pass, that few readers care to take in a book, any more than a servant without a character." This kind of titular puffing, which, it is said, used to put Mr. John Barber so much out of temper, that he was ready to turn an author out of his shop if the frontispiece of his manuscript exceeded the bounds of moderation. The following title-page of the *Universal Magazine* is a perfect advertisement, and affords a striking contrast to the brief and undescriptive titles which we so often see in modern works:

The Universal Magazine of Knowledge and Pleasure;
containing—

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| News, | Geography, | Gardening, |
| Letters, | Voyages, | Cookery, |
| Debates, | Criticism, | Chemistry, |
| Poetry, | Translations, | Mechanicks, |
| Music, | Philosophy, | Trade, |
| Biography, | Mathematics, | Navigation, |
| History, | Husbandry, | Architecture, |

and other Arts and Sciences, which may render it Instructive and Entertaining: to Gentry, Merchants, Farmers, and Tradesmen; to which occasionally will be added an impartial account of Books in several Languages, and of the State of learning in Europe: also of the Stage, new Operas, Plays, and Oratorios.

It ought to be remarked that this magazine was one of the earliest and most permanently successful rivals of the Gentleman's Magazine, and, after extending to one hundred and twelve volumes, it seems to have been discontinued in 1803. In point of literary rank,—in minute researches,—and local illustrations, it never approached the venerable publication which preceded and survived it; still the *Universal* was judiciously planned and respectably executed, and deserved the success which it obtained. It is also recommended to us, by the fact, that it was one of

* In the typographical annals of Scotland, It is a remarkable fact; that a printing house, and its materials, did not descend to executors, as chattels, but to heirs, as Inheritances. And, owing to this peculiarity in the laws of Scotland, the heirs of Andrew Anderson continued to be the king's printers for upwards of thirty years, during the reigns of Charles II. James II. William III. and Anne

the earliest periodicals not exclusively addressed to “the gentry,” and condescended to number “farmers and tradesmen” among those to whom it looked for support.

1747. *Bibliothèque Britannique*. This useful account of English books begins in 1733, and closes in 1747, Hague, 23 vols. It was written by some literary Frenchmen, noticed by La Croze in his *Voyage Littéraire*, who designates the writers in this most tantalizing manner: “Les auteurs sont gens de merite, et qui entendent tous parfaitement l’Anglois; Messrs. S. B. le M. D. et le savant Mr. D.” Posterity, says D’Israeli, has been partially let into the secret: De Missy was one of the contributors, and Warburton communicated his project of an edition of *Velleius Paterculus*.

1748. A trial concerning the right of literary property between the company of stationers of London and the printers of Scotland, the issue of which was unfavourable to the plaintiffs.

1748. HOUBIGANT, the well-known Hebrew critic, set up a press at his country house in the village of Avilly, distant about twenty-five miles from Paris, and there printed his *Hebrew Psalter*, one hundred copies only struck off, which bears the imprint *Lugduni Batavorum*. In 1763 he printed the *Proverbs*, in Hebrew, and also some publications in French.

1748. BENJAMIN MECOM, of Boston, opened a printing-office at St. John’s, the capital of the island of Antigua, and commenced the publication of a newspaper.

1748, Aug. 9. ALEXANDER BLACKWELL, M.D. was beheaded at Stockholm, in Sweden. He was the son of the rev. Thos. Blackwell, principal of the Mareschal college, Aberdeen. Having received a liberal education, he studied physic at Leyden, and acquired a proficiency in the modern languages. On his return home he married a gentleman’s daughter* in tire neighbourhood of Aberdeen, and proposed practising physic in that part of the kingdom; but in about two years, finding his expectations disappointed, he came to London, where he met with still less encouragement as a physician, and commenced corrector of the press in the office of .Mr. Wilkins. After some years spent in this employment, he set up as a printer himself, and carried on several large works, till 1734, when he became a bankrupt. How he passed his time for the next four years is not precisely ascertained; but in or about the year 1740 he went to Sweden, again assumed the medical profession, and was well received in that capacity; till, turning projector, he laid a scheme before his Swedish majesty for draining the fens and marshes, and thousands were employed in prosecuting it under

* *A curious Herbal*, containing five hundred cuts of the most useful Plants which are now used in the practice of Physick, engraved on folio copper-plates, after drawings taken from the life, by Elizabeth Blackwell. To which is added, a short Description of the Plants, and their common uses in physick, 1739, 2 vols, folio. To the first volume is prefixed a recommendation from the distinguished names of Dr. Mead, Dr. Teissier, Dr. Stuart, Dr. Douglas, Dr. Sherard, Mr. Cheselden, Mr. Miller, Mr. Rand, and Mr. Nickolls, dated Oct. I, 1735; and another from the president and censors of the college of physicians, dated July 1, 1747.

the doctor's direction, for which he had some allowance from the king. This scheme succeeded so well, he turned his thoughts to others of greater importance, which in the end proved fatal to him. He was suspected of being concerned in a plot with count Tessin, and was tortured; which not producing a confessing, he was beheaded. Dr. Blackwell was possessed of a good natural genius, but was somewhat flighty, and a little conceited. His conversation, however, was facetious and agreeable; and he might be considered on the whole as a well-bred accomplished gentleman. The British ambassador was recalled from Sweden in 1648, among other reasons, for the imputations thrown on his Britannic majesty in the trial of Dr. Alexander Blackwell.

1748, *Sept. 27. Died*, JAMES THOMSON, author of the *Seasons*, *Castle of Indolence*, and other poems of merit. He was the son of a clergyman, and born at Edman, in Roxburghshire, September 11, 1700, and educated for the Scottish church; but at an early period of life he removed to London, where, in 1726, he published his poem of *Winter*, which lay unnoticed for a considerable time, when Mr. Michell, a gentleman of taste, promulgated its merit in the best circles, and then all was right, *Summer*, *Spring*, and *Autumn*, successively appeared, and formed what now passes by the general title of his *Seasons*. These poems are in blank verse, and describe the various natural appearances of the year, in a very rich and eloquent, and often sublime style of language. In 1729, he sold *Sophonisba*, & tragedy, and *Spring*, for £137 10s. to Andrew Millar,* the eminent bookseller; and for the *Seasons*, and some other pieces, he obtained £105 from John Millar, which were again sold to Andrew Millar nine years afterwards, for the same sum; and when Andrew Millar died, in 1768, his executors sold the whole copyright to the trade for £505. Thomson wrote another large poem, entitled *Liberty*, which, being upon an abstract subject, never became popular, though it contains many fine passages. The *Castle of Indolence* was designed as a kind of satire on his own soft and lethargic character, but is nevertheless the most perfect, and perhaps the most poetical of all his compositions. Though slothful in the extreme, he was a very amiable and benevolent man; he was in person large and ungainly, with a heavy unanimated countenance, and nothing in his appearance or manner in mixed society indicating the man of genius or refinement. No poet has deserved more praise for the moral tenor of his works. Undoubted philanthropy, enlarged ideas of the dignity of man, and of his rights; love of virtue, public and private, and of a devotional spirit, narrowed by no views of sect or party, give soul to his verse, when not merely descriptive: and no man can rise from the perusal of his pages, without melioration of his principles or feelings. His death was occasioned by a cold caught while sailing upon the Thames: he was buried under a plain stone in Richmond church.

* When Thomson first went to London, he took up to abide with Mr. Park Egerton, bookseller, near Whitehall, and finished his poem of *Winter* in an apartment over the shop. It remained on his shelves a long time unnoticed; but after Thomson began to gain some reputation as a poet, he either went himself, or was taken by Mallet, to Andrew Millar, in the Strand, with whom he entered into new engagements for printing; his works, which as much incensed his patron, and his countryman also, that they were never afterwards cordially reconciled, although lord Lyttleton took uncommon pains to mediate between them.

1748. *Died*, EDMUND CURLL, a noted bookseller, at the sign of the Bible, Covent Garden, rendered memorable by Pope, in his *Dunciad*.

In 1721, upon Curll printing the *Life of the Duke of Buckingham*, and pirating his works, an order was made by the house of lords, declaring "that whosoever should presume to print any account of the *Life*, the *Letters*, or *other works*, of any deceased peer, without the consent of his heirs or executors, should be punished as guilty of a breach of privilege of this house."

The memory of Edmund Curll has been transmitted to posterity with an obloquy more severe than he deserved. Whatever were his demerits in having occasionally published works that the present age would very properly consider too licentious, he certainly deserves commendation for his industry in preserving our national remains. And it may perhaps be added that he did not publish a single volume but what, midst a profusion of base metal, contained some precious ore, some valuable reliques, which future collectors could no where else have found.

HENRY CURLL, son of the above, was also a bookseller, in Bow-street, Covent Garden. He kept a separate shop in Henrietta-street.

1748, *Nov. 7*. In the *Boston Evening Post*, edited by Thos. Fleet, already noticed at page 644, *ante*, is inserted the following humorous advertisement: "Choice Pennsylvania tobacco paper, to be sold by the publishers of this paper, at the Heart and Crown: where may also be had the BVLLS or Indulgences of the present pope *Urban VIII*. either by the single bull, quire, or ream, at a much cheaper rate than they can be purchased of the *French* or *Spanish* priests, and yet will be warranted to be of the same advantage to the possessors."

These *bulls*, or indulgences of the pope, were printed on one side of a small sheet; several bales of them were taken in a Spanish ship captured by an English cruizer, and sent into Boston. Fleet purchased a very large quantity at a low price, and printed various editions of ballads on the backs of them. One side of the sheet was blank, and the paper very good; one bull answered for two half-sheet ballads, or songs, such as *Black-eyed Susan*, *Teague's ramble to the camp*, &c.

1748, *Nov. 25*. Dr. Johnson disposes of *The Vanity of Human Wishes*, to Dodsley, for fifteen guineas, reserving to its author the right of printing one edition.

1748. SAMUEL RICHARDSON produced the two first volumes of *Clarissa Harlowe*; these were soon succeeded by a third and fourth volume; and then, after an interval of some months, four more volumes completed the narrative. The production of *Clarissa*, perhaps the most pathetic tale ever published, at once elevated its author to the highest rank among novelists, and has secured to him an immortality to which very few writers, in the department which he cultivated, can ever hope to aspire. In the character of *Clarissa*, Richardson has presented us with a picture of nearly

female perfection, a delineation which, unless in the hands of a great master, would be apt to produce a formal insipidity; but the heroine of our author passes through such severe trials, through distresses so minutely described, yet so faithfully true to nature, that the interest excited in her behalf rises in every scene, and at length becomes poignantly keen. "It is probable," says Dr. Drake, "that no book, in any language, ever occasioned so many tears to flow, as the *Clarissa* of Richardson." "The tale," says sir Waller Scott, "is very simple; but the scene is laid in a higher rank of life, the characters are drawn with a bolder pencil, and the whole accompaniments are of a far loftier mood."

1748. *The Jacobite's Journal*. This paper appeared on the decease of the *True Patriot*, and was written by the same author.

1748, Oct. *The Mitre and Crown*, No. 1.

1749, May. *The Monthly Review*, No. 1. This work was commenced by Mr. Ralph Griffiths, bookseller, in London, which he edited, with unremitting perseverance, for fifty-four years. The first number was published at the sign of the Dunciad, St. Paul's church yard, whence in 1754 Mr. Griffiths removed to Paternoster-row, and in 1759 into the Strand, still retaining the sign of the Dunciad. In 1764 Mr. Thomas Becket, a very respectable bookseller, in the Strand, became the publisher. When the *Monthly Review* started there was no regular established Literary Review in Great Britain; nor was this one very successful on its first publication. Several times it was about to be abandoned, as Dr. Griffiths often told his friends; but patience, perseverance, and attention, surmounted every obstacle, and procured it a firm establishment. At this period the *Gentleman's Magazine* occasionally noticed works of genius; but much more frequently those of a political or party tendency, in which all the world knows that genius is the last thing expected, or perhaps admired. The *Monthly Review* has this singular circumstance attending its introduction, that it came into the world almost unannounced. In contradiction to the promises, parade, and verbosity, which are generally the precursors of periodical works, the two first lines of an advertisement, which scarcely contains twenty, most truly state, that "Undertakings which, in their execution, carry the designation of their use, need very little preface."

1749, Oct. 19. Died, WILLIAM GED, an ingenious though unsuccessful artist, who was a goldsmith in Edinburgh, deserves to be recorded for his attempt to introduce an improvement in the art of printing, viz., *Stereotype Printing*. In 1781, Mr. Nichols published an interesting pamphlet, entitled *Biographical Memoirs of William Ged*; including a particular account of his progress in the art of block-printing.* The first part of the pamphlet, as the editor informs us, was printed from a manuscript

* See also, *Biographical Memoirs of William Ged; including a particular account of his progress in the Art of Block .Printing*. Newcastle: printed by S. Hodgson, Union-street, and sold by E. Charnley, Big-market, 1819. This small work is very neatly printed, and forms part of a series of typographical tracts, which it was the intention of the editor, Mr. Thomas Hodgson, to publish. It was printed for the Newcastle Typographical Society.

dictated by Ged, some time before his death; the second part was written by his daughter, for whose benefit the profits of "the publication were intended; the third was a copy of proposals that had been published by Mr. Ged's son, in 1751, for reviving his father's art; and to the whole was added Mr. Mores's narrative of block-printing. From this publication it appears, that so far back as 1725, Mr. Ged had begun to prosecute plate making. In 1727 he entered into a contract with a person who had a little capital, but who, on conversing with some printer, got so intimidated, that at the end of two years he had laid out only twenty-two pounds. In 1729 he entered into a new contract with a Mr. Fenner,* Thomas James a type-founder, and John James an architect. On April 23, 1731, the above partners having applied to the university of Cambridge for the privilege of printing Bibles and common Prayer-books, with blocks, instead of single types, a lease was sealed to them on this day, but only two prayer-books were finished, so that the attempt was forced to be given up. It appears that one of his partners was actually averse to the success of the plan, and engaged such people for the work as he thought most likely to spoil it. A straggling workman who had wrought there, informed Mr. Mores, that both bibles and common prayer-books had been printed, but that the compositors, when they corrected one fault, made purposely half a dozen more, and the pressmen, when the masters were absent, battered the letter in aid of the compositors. In consequence of these base proceedings, the books were suppressed by authority, and the plates sent to the king's printing-house, and from thence to Mr. Caslon's foundry. After much ill usage, Ged, who appears to have been a person of great honesty and simplicity, returned to Edinburgh. His friends were anxious that a specimen of his art should be published, which was at last done by subscription. His son, James Ged, who had been apprenticed to a printer, with the consent of his master, set up the forms in the night time, when the other compositors were gone, for his father to cast the plates from; by which means *Sallust* was finished in 1736. Of this work Mr. Tilloch has a copy, and the plate of one of the pages; as also of another work, printed some years after, from plates of Mr. Ged's manufacture. The book is *The Life of God in the Soul of Man*,† printed on a writing pot, 12mo., and with the following imprint: "Newcastle; printed and sold by John White, from plates made by William Ged, goldsmith, in Edinburgh, 1742." It is a very neat little volume, and is as well printed as books generally were at the time.

James Ged, the son of William, wearied with disappointments, engaged in the rebellion of 1745, as a captain in Perth's regiment; and being taken at Carlisle, was condemned; but on his father's account (by Dr. Smith's interest with the duke of Newcastle,) he was pardoned and released in 1748. He afterwards worked as a journeyman with Mr. Bettenham, a printer of London, and then commenced master;

* William Fenner, stationer, who seems to have acted no very honourable part towards Ged, died insolvent in or about the year 1735.

† This work was first published in 1667, by Henry Scougal, a theological writer of considerable eminence. He was the son of Patrick Scougal, who was bishop of Aberdeen, from 1654 to 1682. He was born at the end of June, 1650, and died at the early age of twenty-eight, on the 13th of June, 1678.

but being unsuccessful, he went privately to Jamaica, in 1748, where his younger brother William was settled as a respectable printer. His tools, &c. he left to be shipped by a false friend, who most ungenerously detained them to try his own skill. James died in the year 1749, after he left England; and his brother William in 1767.

1750, *March 20. The Rambler*, No. 1. These essays regularly appeared every Tuesday and Saturday for two years, the 208th and last being dated March 14, 1752. To each number was affixed the price of twopence, and it was well and accurately printed by William Faden* on a sheet and a half of fine paper. It was in the *Rambler* that Johnson first presented to the public those peculiarities and prominent beauties of style which immediately distinguished him in so striking a manner from all preceding writers, and which have made so durable an impression upon our language.† The slow progress of the *Rambler* towards the possession of that fame which it ultimately acquired, affected not its author in a pecuniary light. He had entered into a contract with Mr. John Payne, a respectable bookseller, of Paternoster-row, who had agreed to give him two guineas for each paper as it appeared, and to admit him to a share of the profits arising from the sale of the collected work. Johnson received regularly, therefore, four guineas a week for two years, an engagement that enabled him to live comfortably, and which, if not productive of much present advantage, was eventually a most lucrative bargain to the publisher. During the appearance of the *Rambler*, in single numbers, Mr. James Elphinstone, a friend of Johnson's, and brother-in-law to Mr. Strahan, the printer, undertook to publish them in Edinburgh, and the following advertisement is copied from an Edinburgh newspaper of this date:

“Just published, on a fine writing paper, and in a small 8vo. size, fit for binding in pocket volumes, THE RAMBLER. To be continued on Tuesdays and Fridays. *Nulliut addictus*, &c. Edinburgh: printed for the author; sold by William Gordon and C. Wright, at their shops in Parliament-close, price one penny each number, and regularly delivered to subscribers in town, or sent to the country by post.”

The *Rambler* is a title, by no means happily chosen, as it corresponds not with the tenor of the work, of which the great characteristic is uniform dignity.

* During Dr. Johnson's last illness he inquired of Mr. Boswell, “whether any of the family of Faden the printer were living. Being told that the geographer, near Charing Cross, was Faden's son, he said, after a short pause, I borrowed a guinea of his father near thirty years ago; be so good as to take this, and pay it for me.”

† Mr. Tooke says, that, amidst the progress which literature was making at St. Petersburg, translations of the *Rambler* and of Blackstone's *Commentaries*, had been made into the Russian language, by the especial command of the empress.

The assistance which Johnson received in the composition of the *Rambler* amounted (with the exception of four billets by Mrs. Chapone,*) only to four numbers, the productions of Miss Talbot,† Samuel Richardson,‡ and Mrs. Carter.§

“What has once passed the press is irrevocable. Though the printing house may properly be compared to the infernal regions for the facility of its entrance, and the difficulty with which authors return to it; yet there is this difference, that a *great genius* can never return to his former state by a happy draught of the waters of oblivion. —*Rambler*, No. 16.

On the termination of the *Rambler*, Dr. Johnson says, “I shall never envy the honours which wit and learning obtain in any other cause, if I can be numbered among the writers who have given ardour to virtue, and confidence to truth.”

Dr. Johnson, in speaking of newspapers, says, “To these compositions is required neither genius or knowledge, neither industry nor sprightliness, but contempt of shame and indifference to truth are absolutely necessary.” He then talks of their increase in the time of war, and concludes by affirming “that a peace will equally leave the warrior and the newspaper writer destitute of employment; and I know not whether more is to be dreaded from streets filled with soldiers, accustomed to plunder, or from garrets filled with scribblers accustomed to lie.” Again, he says, “If nothing may be published but what civil authority shall have previously approved, *power must always be the standard of truth*; if every dreamer of innovation may propagate his projects, there can be no settlement; if every murmurer at government may diffuse discontent, there can be no peace; and if every sceptic in theology may teach his follies, there can be no religion. The remedy against these evils is to punish

* Mrs. Hester Chapone was born of a respectable family named Mulso, at Twywell in Northamptonshire, October 27, 1727. She wrote the interesting story of Fidelity, in the *Adventurer*, and a poem prefixed to the translation of Epictetus, by Mrs. Carter. Her literary reputation, however, rests upon her *Letters on the Improvement of the Mind*, addressed to a young lady, and printed in 1775. She also wrote a volume of Miscellanies, containing moral essays and poems. Mrs. Chapone died at Hadley, in Middlesex, December 25, 1791, aged 75.

† Catharine Talbot, the only daughter of the rev. Edward Talbot, archdeacon of Berks, was born in the year 1720. She resided chiefly in Lambeth palace, where she received all the advantages of the most accomplished education, and early exhibited strong marks of a feeling heart, a warm imagination, and a powerful understanding. Her chief work is entitled *Reflections on the Seven Days of the Week*, which forms one of the works distributed by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge. She died January 9, 1770.

‡ It is a remarkable and curious *trait* of the age, that the only paper in the *Rambler* which had a prosperous sale, and may be said to have been popular, was one which Dr. Johnson did not write. This was No. 97, which was said to have been written by Richardson. The sale was very inconsiderable, and seldom exceeded five hundred.

§ Elizabeth Carter was the daughter of the rev. Dr. Carter, rector of Deal in Kent, where she was born, December 16, 1717. She acquired a considerable knowledge of the Latin and Greek languages, as appears by her excellent translation of *Epictetus* into English. She wrote two papers in the *Rambler*, and in 1736 she published a volume of poems, many of which are elegant. Miss Carter, who was never married, died in London, December 19, 1806.

the authors; for it is yet allowed, that every society may punish, though not prevent, the publication of opinions, which that society shall think pernicious; but this punishment, though it may crush the author, *promotes the book*; and it seems not more reasonable to leave the right of printing unrestrained because writers may be afterwards censured, than it would be to sleep with doors unbolted, because by our laws we can hang a thief.”

1749. *The Ladies Magazine*, by Gasper Goodwill, of Oxford.

1749. *Manchester Vindicated*; in a complete collection of the papers published in defence of that town, in the *Chester Courant*, with those on the other side of the question, printed in the *Manchester Magazine* or elsewhere, which are answered in the said *Chester Courant*. Chester: printed by and for Elizabeth Adams, and sold in London by Mrs. Mary Cooper, at the Globe, in Paternoster-row. 324 pages, 24mo. Price 3s.

1750. It appears that a press was at work in this year, at Ragland castle, in Monmouthshire; for a book is extant, called, *A Collection of Loyal Songs, Poems, &c*, said to be privately printed at Ragland castle, in this year. “A collection of Jacobite poems; although it is stated to be privately printed, I apprehend it was sold, although from the nature of the collection very cautiously.”—Martin’s *Private Presses*, page 35.

1750, *July 12. Died*, THOMAS WILLIS, esq., citizen and stationer, who was fined for the office of sheriff. He left 500 to the poor of St. Margaret’s, Westminster, not having alms; £500 to the Westminster infirmary; and £6,000 to the farmers about Tothill-fields, who had suffered by the cow distemper.

1750, *Oct. 27. Died*, THOMAS JAMES, printer, of Cambridge, aged forty: he was buried in the church of St. Michael in that town. Mr. James, Mr. La Butte, and Robert Walker, left London for Cambridge, where they commenced printing a weekly newspaper, and, to establish the sale of it, they printed, in 8vo. lord Clarendon’s *History of the Great Rebellion*, and Beyer’s *History of Queen Anne*, with neat cuts, &c. which they gave *gratis*, a sheet a week, till completed.

1750, *Dec. 5. Died*, JAMES BROOKE, esq., who had been sheriff of London, in 1738; gave by his will a legacy of £50 to the poor of the stationers’ company, to be distributed at the discretion of the court.

1750, *Jan. 31. The Student*, No. 1. This is a miscellany of great merit, which was published monthly, in numbers, at Oxford. It rejects all politics and party discussion, but embraces a wide field in polite literature, and professes to insert nothing in its pages that had been previously published. It includes many curious documents in history and biography, and a valuable contribution of poetry by some of the first bards of the age, among which are many pieces by Warton.

1750. *The Leicester Journal*. This paper was printed in London, and sent down to Leicester for publication. It appears that the editors of newspapers were often at a stand for matter to fill their columns, scanty as they were; and a singular instance occurs in this paper, that the editor had actually recourse to the bible to help him out, and filled up his empty space from it! He commenced with *Genesis*, and went as far in succeeding numbers as the tenth of *Exodus*.

1750. *The Dumfries Journal*. This was the fourth town in Scotland distinguished for the establishment of a newspaper. It was afterwards converted into a species of *Magazine*, which was conducted with much spirit by the late venerable Fulton, the celebrated compiler of the school pronouncing dictionary, and a few other youthful and enthusiastic literary associates. It again assumed the form of a newspaper about the year 1775 or 1776, and continued to flourish up till the era of the "reform bill" in 1831, when its conservative principles being no longer popular, it ceased in 1833.

1750. *The Reflector*.

1750, March 20. *The Tatler revived; or, the Christian Philosopher and Politician*, No. 1. stamped, price twopence, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.

1750. *The Westminster Magazine*, by Launcelot Pooer-struck, an author, but no Esq.; 4to.

1751. *Died*, WILLIAM WILKINS, printer in Little Britain, who at this period was the printer of five different newspapers; and the favourite printer of the Whig party. On a tablet under a half-length of bishop Hoadly seated, possessed by the company of stationers, is inscribed, "This portrait of Dr. Benjamin Hoadly,* lord bishop of Winchester, prelate of the most noble order of the garter, was painted at the expense of William Wilkins, esq. citizen and stationer of London, out of the high esteem and veneration he had for the bishop, on account of his being always actuated by the true spirit of the gospel, and the principles of the Protestant religion, and of his being a firm friend to liberty, religious and civil. Mr. Wilkins left it to the stationers' company after his wife's decease, who departed this life the 29th day of July, 1784."

1751. ANDREW MILLAR, bookseller, in the Strand, gave £1000 to Henry Fielding for his novel of *Amelia*, which he suspecting would be judged inferior to *Tom Jones*, employed the following stratagem to push it on the trade. At a sale made to the booksellers, previous to the publication, Millar offered his friends his other works, at

* Benjamin Hoadly, was born at Westerham, in Kent, Nov. 14, 1676. On the accession of George I. he was made bishop of Bangor, which see he never visited, but continued in London preaching and publishing party sermons. One of these, on the *Spiritual Kingdom of Christ*, produced a violent dispute, called the Bangorian controversy. From Bangor he was translated to Hereford, thence to Salisbury, and lastly to Winchester. He died April 17, 1761, and was buried in his cathedral. From the above portrait he appears to have been more than sixty years of age, when the painting was made, and has pleasant full features, shaded by a moderate sized powdered wig.

the usual terms of discount; but when he came to *Amelia*, he laid it aside as a work expected to be in such demand that he could not afford to deliver it to the trade in the usual manner; the *ruse* succeeded; the whole impression was anxiously bought up, and the bookseller relieved from every apprehension of a slow sale. *Amelia* was dedicated to the author's great friend, Ralph Allen,* esq. From the period of the publication of *Tom Jones*, the vigour of Fielding's mind sank, though by slow degrees, into a decline; it has, however, the marks of genius; but of a genius beginning to fall into decay. Nevertheless, *Amelia* holds the same proportion to *Tom Jones*, that the *Odyssey* of Homer bears, in Longinus's estimation, to the *Illiad*. In various respects it breathes a fine vein of morality; many of the situations are affecting and tender; and, upon the whole, it is the *Odyssey*, the moral and pathetic work of Henry Fielding.

1751, Aug. BARTHOLOMEW GREEN, a printer from Boston, removed to Halifax, the capital of Nova Scotia, where he erected the first press which appeared in that province, and died soon afterwards. His successor, John Bushell, published, in the first week in January, 1752, the first newspaper in Nova Scotia.

1751. Two printers, named MILLER & HOLLAND, supposed to be natives of Germany, introduced a press at Lancaster, the capital of a county in the province of Pennsylvania, North America, where they executed some small works in the German language, and in this or the next year, 1752, published a newspaper in German and English.

1731. About this period bookbinders began the *sewn back*, whereby the bands on which the book is sewn, were let into the backs of the sheets, and thus no projection appears, as is seen in all binding of a previous date. Where it was first used is not known, but it is considered the Dutch binding first gave the idea. Although it was adopted by many of the English and French binders with repugnance, it became fashionable. Bands, or raised cords, were soon only used for school books, which species of binding is now universally known as *sheep bands*. The general kind of binding from this time to the end of the century, was what is termed *calf gilt*, being

* Ralph Allen, esq. died at Prior Park, near Bath, June 29, 17<S«, of whom it will be no ostentatious encomium to observe, that he was one of the best and most benevolent of men. His memory will ever be revered by the city and neighbourhood of Bath, to both which he dispense a variety of acts of liberality; and his name is eternized in the memorials of that noble charitable foundation the hospital, to which he was a most munificent benefactor. The following inscription, on the tablet of a tower near the park is emphatically expressive of his character.—

“Memoriæ optimi, viri, Radulphi Allen, positum.
Qui virtutem veram simplicemque colis, venerare, hoc saxum.”

Dr. Warburton married his niece. Miss Gertrude Torkt. and Prior Park became from that time his principal residence, and ultimately his own property.

done all to one pattern, the sides marbled,* the backs being brown, with coloured lettering pieces, and full gilt. Open backs had been little introduced, and the backs of the books were made remarkably stiff, to prevent the leather from wrinkling when they were opened.

1751, *March. The Inspector.* This periodical is a striking proof of the unwearied assiduity of sir John Hill.† that, occupied as he was in writing voluminous productions on natural history, he could find time for the composition of a miscellaneous paper, which he agreed to publish *daily*, and which he executed without the least assistance, for about two years, in the *London Daily Advertiser*. Many “of these papers are written with vivacity, and a few exhibit traits of humour, character, and imagination, though, as it might be expected, from the hasty manner in which they were written, they are often loose and slovenly, and frequently ungrammatical.

1751, *Nov. 15.*‡ *Died*, HENRY SAINT-JOHN, viscount Bolingbroke, whose life is one of those lessons by which mankind are taught that genius, learning, wit, and the happiest opportunities for realising all that honest muniton can suggest to a great mind, are bestowed in vain, unless they are accompanied by prudence and integrity of principle. The opinions of posterity as to his character are likely to be as much divided as were those of his contemporaries; and the safe conclusion that can be arrived at is, that he possessed an extraordinary mixture of good and evil, of greatness and meanness, of that which ennobles, as well as that which disgraces mortality. He descended from one of the most ancient families in the kingdom, and was born at Battersea, Oct. 1. 1678, educated at Eton, and Christ Church, Oxford. Nature appears to have been scarcely more prodigal in bestowing her favours, than he was in abusing them. A career of wild dissipation left him little leisure for the pursuit of knowledge. His extraordinary talents forced themselves into general notice: his prodigious strength of memory and quick apprehension, his dashing and brilliant style, was the admiration of his friends, and his social disposition rendered their affection equal to their admiration. Formed to excel in whatever he might undertake, he soon became as notorious for his excesses, as he was afterwards

* On the Invention of this process great caution was used to keep it secret, and books were obliged to be sent to the inventor to be marbled at a high price.

† Sir John Hill was one of the most extraordinary characters of the eighteenth century. He was the son of a clergyman, and born either at Peterborough or Spalding, in 1716. He was educated for the profession of medicine, and at first practised as an apothecary in St. Martin's lane, London. Had his prudence and temper been equal to his industry, his character with his contemporaries, and with posterity, would have been highly esteemed. The usual consequence of Indecent and Indiscriminate satire awaited our author; and for a time the profits arising from his pen were so great as, sometimes, to amount to £1500 per annum. He obtained the place of superintendent of the royal gardens at Kew, accompanied by a very liberal salary by lord Bute, under whose patronage he was likewise enabled to prosecute his splendid publication of the *Vegetable System*. About two years previous to his decease, on presenting his botanical works to the king of Sweden, he was made a knight of the polar star. After a life of more notoriety than respectability, sir John Hill died In Nov. 1775.

‡ By some writers the death of Bolingbroke is placed on the 15th of December.

eminent for his genius and learning. He entered parliament in the year 1700, for the borough of Wotton Bassett, (a borough in which the family interest of the St. John's was predominant,) and joined the ranks of the Tories. In 1710 he became secretary of state, on Harley* being made chancellor of the exchequer, and in 1712 he was created viscount Bolingbroke. We have already noticed the origin of the newspaper stamp duty, which took place under the influence of Bolingbroke, and the case is thus stated in Cooke's life of that nobleman: "It was probably the influence of the Whig newspapers, in nourishing the hopes of their party, and who proved themselves so numerous, and so powerful, that they could insult and libel the minister with impunity, that induced Bolingbroke to attempt to circumscribe the liberty of the press. The possession of power is in itself a strong temptation to its exercise; and Bolingbroke, the object of attack as a minister and a party leader, forgot the feelings which had induced him, when establishing himself upon the ruins of the former ministry, to pursue their retreat with the bitterest censures, and to heap the most unmanly insult upon their patroness at court. With the writers he could employ upon his side, it might be supposed he would have little to fear from any literary contest; that argument might he safely opposed to abuse, and mere scurrility be despised and forgotten. But Bolingbroke was a minister; he was engaged in a multitude of occupations—some of these were of doubtful propriety, all were capable of attack. The comments upon his conduct were severe, but some of them were probably true; and Bolingbroke, while he could retort the severity, must resent the truth. So important were these libellous publications deemed, that the queen concludes one of her messages to parliament by representing the licentiousness of the press. She is made to declare, that by seditious papers and factious rumours, designing men have been able to sink credit, and the innocent have suffered; and she recommends the house to find a remedy." That remedy we have already shown was the stamp duty upon newspapers and pamphlets.† "The insufficiency of Bolingbroke's expedient," continues Mr. Cooke, "soon became apparent to himself, and we find from his correspondence that he was often employed in prosecuting the printers of those papers which were most violent against him. Swift, who certainly should have had a fellow feeling for these libellers, seems not only to have approved, but to have urged this severity.‡ The printers were often in prison, but discharged upon bail; and the papers still appeared, with their satire more pungent by the treatment the authors were smarting under. The ill success of his prosecutions determined Bolingbroke to

* Robert Harley, earl of Oxford, was the eldest son of Sir Edward Harley, and born in Bow-street, Covent Garden, London, Dec. 5, 1661. On Feb. 1, 1701, he was chosen speaker of the house of commons. On March 8, 1711, he was wounded at the council table with a penknife, by the Marquis de Guissard, during an examination upon a charge of high treason. Bolingbroke rose, drew his sword, and ran it into Guissard. In the same year he was raised to the peerage, and appointed lord treasurer, which office he resigned a few days before the death of Queen Anne. In 1713 he was impeached of high treason by the commons, and committed to the tower, where he remained two years, and was then brought to his trial and acquitted, he died May 21, 1724. The earl of Oxford was a munificent patron of literature, and commenced one of the noblest collections of manuscripts, books, &c. in this country.

† See page 601, *ante*.

‡ See page 599, *ante*.

attempt an expedient which, had it succeeded, would quickly have stopped the streams of vituperation which flowed from each party. Among the provisions of an act he proposed was one, *that every printed book, pamphlet, or paper which was published should bear the writer's name and address*: a requisition which must have at once driven from the field of controversy all those men of eminence in the opposite parties who were bold so long as they could mingle masked in the fray, but who would have shrunk from openly exposing their reputations and their persons in so equivocal a contest. No one felt the inconvenience of the threatened measure more forcibly than the author of the *History of the Last Four Years*. His defence of anonymous writing, drawn forth by this occasion, is exceedingly amusing, when we consider the character of the works which *he* used to send forth, and the peculiar motives he usually had for concealment. This bill, which so powerfully excited Swift's fears for the safety of libellers and the interests of religion and learning, met with such opposition from both parties, that it was suffered to drop in the commons; and the idea of farther fettering the press was abandoned as impracticable." On the accession of George I. the whigs were placed in power, and the seals taken from Bolingbroke: the papers in his office were secured, on which he withdrew to France, where the pretender invited him into his service. In the mean time he was impeached of high treason in England, and the same year he lost the favour of his new connexions. In this situation he set himself about milking his peace at home, in which he succeeded, but did not obtain his full pardon till 1723, on which he returned to England, and recovered his family inheritance. The remainder of his life was passed in a state of total exclusion from power; and, under these circumstances, mortified ambition prompted him to join the opposition against sir Robert Walpole, and to publish many political essays, in the *Craftsman*, in which patriotism was assumed as a mere instrument for annoying his political opponents. He wrote a number of philosophical discussions based on equally no sound principles, and highly adverse to sound religion. When Bolingbroke found that Pope had printed an unauthorised edition of the *Patriot King*, he employed Mallet (1749) as the executioner of his vengeance. Mallet wanted either virtue, or spirit, to refuse the office; and was rewarded, not long after, with the legacy of lord Bolingbroke's works, which were published with a success very inadequate to Mallet's expectation.*

1751. Alexander Macdonald published his *Gaelic Songs*, being the second book which contained any poetry printed in that language.

1752, Jan. 4. *Covent Garden Journal*, published on Tuesdays and Saturdays, No. 1. By sir Alexander Drawcansir, (Henry Fielding.) author of the *Champion*, *True Patriot*, and *Jacobite Journal*.

1752, March 3. *Harrop's Manchester Mercury*, No. 1, printed and published by Joseph Harrop, at the sign of the Printing-press, opposite the Exchange, on Tuesday. No price affixed. At No. 9, the title is changed to *Harrop's Manchester Mercury and*

General Advertiser, embellished with a curious wood-cut, representing the interior of a printing-office, and published opposite the clock side of the Exchange. In 1764, Mr. Harrop gave, in weekly numbers, *A new History of England*, 778 pp. to encourage the sale of his newspaper: in an address, at the end of the work, the proprietor says it was at the cost of one hundred guineas.

1752, *July 6*. WILLIAM OWEN, bookseller, at Homer's head, near Temple bar, was tried at Guildhall, for printing and publishing a libel, entitled the *Case of Alexander Murray, esq.* and acquitted. This was the third great case, where the juries insisted on judging the matter of law, as well as of fact. See *State Trials*.

1752. *The Magazine of Magazines*. In this magazine Gray's *Elegy in a Country Church Yard* first appeared.

1752. *Have at you all; or, the Drury-lane Journal*, to be continued every Thursday, price 3d.

David Malloch, or Mallet, was born of poor parents in the city of Edinburgh, about 1700, but surmounted the disadvantage of his birth and fortune. He received a portion of his education at the high school of his native city, and became tutor to the sons of the duke of Montrose, with whom he travelled, and on his return settled in London, where he became an author by profession. In July 1724 he published the ballad of *William and Margaret*, which is still popular. In April, 1734, he obtained the degree of MA at St. Mary's hall, Oxford. In 1740 he published a *Life of Lord Bacon*: the duchess of Marlborough left him £1000 to write the life of her husband, which never appeared; and he obtained a considerable pension from lord Bute for defending; his administration. He was under secretary to Frederic prince of Wales. He died April 21, 1724*, and it was remarked of him, "that he was the only Scot whom Scotchmen did not commend." On which Mr. Steevens remarked, that "he was the only Scotchman be ever knew unregretted by his countrymen." The news of his death was followed by no encomiums on his writings or his virtues.

1752. *An enquiry into the Origin of Printing in Europe*, price 1s. published by Mr. Gibson.

1762. *An Essay on the Original, Use, and Excellency of the noble Art and Mystery of Printing*. London: printed for T. Legg, at the Parrot and Crown, in Green Arbour-court, in the Little Old Bailey. Price four-pence.

This is a small tract of sixteen pages demy 12mo, and, therefore, little can be expected of the *History of Printing*. A high encomium is paid to William Caslon and Son, letter-founders, and to Stephen Baylis, of St. Anne's lane, near Aldersgate, printing ink maker. Of the use and excellency of the art, it is stated, that "'Tis by the

* Actually, 1765 [Ed.]

art of Printing that we come to know the lives and actions of the renowned worthies of the first ages of the world; whereby those things which were transacted five thousand years ago are as familiar to us as if they had been done but yesterday. 'Tis PRINTING that does immortalize the memory of ancient heroes, and transmits their actions to the end of time." The following poem is inserted at the end, which is there stated to have been written many years before, and then out of print. In preserving it, we think no apology will be required, (for as it is stated in the tract,) "being well assured it will be very acceptable to all lovers of *the noble art and mystery of printing.*"

A CONTEMPLATION

On the Mystery of Man's Regeneration, in dilution to the

Mystery of Printing.

Great blest *Master Printer*, come
 Into thy *composing room*:
 Wipe away our foul offences,
 Make, O make our souls and senses,
 The *upper* and the *lower cases*;
 And thy large alphabet of graces
 The *letter*, which being ever fit,
 O haste thou to *distribute* it:
 For there is (I make amount)
 No *imperfection* in the *fount*.
 If any letter's face be *foul*,
 O wash it ere it touch the soul;
 Contrition be the *brush*, the *lye*
 Tears from a penitential eye.

Thy graces so *distributed*.
 Think not thy work half finished:
 On still, O Lord, no time defer,
 Be truly a COMPOSITOR;
 Take thy *composing stick* In hand,
 Thy holy word, the firmest hand;
 For sure that work can never miss,
 That's truly *justified* in this.

The end of grace's distribution,
 Is not a mere dissolution;
 But that from each part being cited.
 They may be again united.

Let righteousness and peace then meet,
 Mercy and truth each other greet;
 Let these letters make a word.
 Let these words a line afford.
 Then of lines a page compose,
 Which being brought unto a close.
 Be thou the *direction*, Lord;
 Let lore be the fast-binding *cord*.

Set, O Lord, O *set* apace,
 That we may grow from grace to grace;
 Till towards the *chace* we nearer draw
 The two strong tables of thy law;
 Of which the two firm *crosses* be,
 The love of man, next after Thee.
 The *head sticks* are thy majesty.
 The *foot sticks* Christ's humility;
 The supplication of the saints.
 The *side sticks*, when our faith e'er faints
 Let the *quoins* be thy sure election,
 Which admits of no rejection,
 With which our souls being join'd about.
 Not the least grace can then drop out.
 Thy mercies and allurements all.
 Thy *shooting stick* and *mallet* call.

But when all this is done we see,
 Who shall the *corrector* be!
 O Lord, what thou *set'st* can't be ill.
 It needs then no *corrector's* skill.

Now, though these graces are all *set*.
 Our hearts are but *white paper* yet;
 And by Adam's first transgression,
 Fit only for the worst impression.
 Thy holy Spirit the *pressman* make,
 From whom we may perfection take;
 And let him no time defer,
 To print us on thy character.

Let the ink be black as jet,
 What though? it is comely yet;
 As curtains of King Solomon,
 Or Kedar's tents to look upon.

Be victory the *press's head*.
 That o'er oppression It may tread:
 Let divine contemplation be T
 he *skrews*, to raise us up to Thee:
 The *press's two cheeks* (unsubdued)
 Strong constancy and fortitude:
 Our slavish flesh let be the *till*.
 Whereon to lay what trash you will:
 The *nut* and *spindle*, gentleness.
 To move the work with easiness:
 The *platten* is affliction.
 Which makes good work, being hard set on.
 The *bar*, the spirit's instrument,
 To sanctify our punishment:
 The *blanket* a resemblance hath
 Of mercy in the midst of wrath:
 The *frisket*, thy preventing grace.
 Keeps us from many sullied race.
 CHRIST JESUS is the *level stone*,
 That our hearts mast be wrought upon.
 The *coffin* wherein it doth lie,
 Is rest to all eternity.
 The *cramp irons* that it moves on still,
 Are the good motions of the will:
 The *rounce*, the spirit's inspiration.
 Working a holy agitation.
 The *girths*, the gift of continence.
 The tether of th' unbridled sense:
 The *winter*, whereon all doth lie.
 Is patience in adversity:
 The *foot step*, humbleness of mind,
 That in itself no worth can find.

If there be such a chance as this,
 That any letter *batter'd* is,
 Being come unto thy view.
Take it out, put in anew;
 Or if Satan, that foul fiend.
 Mar, with a pretence to mend.
 And being at thy goodness vext.
 Makes blasphemy of thy pure text.
 Find it out, O Lord, and then,
Print our hearts new o'er again.

O Lord, unto this work make haste,
 'Tis a work that long will last:
 And when this *white paper's* done,
 Work a *reiteration*.

1752, Oct 11. *Died*, THOMAS STACKHOUSE, A. M. a learned and pious, but necessitous divine. He was sometime minister of the English church at Amsterdam, and afterwards successively curate of Richmond, Ealing, and Finchley; in all which places he was much respected. He was perhaps the most laborious writer of his time, and his principal work, the *History of the Bible*, originated in the following singular manner: In the year 1732 was published a pamphlet, entitled *The Bookbinder, Bookprinter, and Bookseller confuted; the author's vindication of himself from the calumnies in a paper industriously dispersed by one Edlin. Together with some observations on the History of the Bible, as it is at present published by the said Edlin*. By the Rev. Mr. Stackhouse, curate of Finchley, 8vo. In this rare pamphlet the author very feelingly, but spiritedly, exemplifies in himself *the miseries of a poor clergyman*. The brief matter of fact is, that, in May, 1732, Mr. Wilford and Mr. Edlin, "when the success of *some certain things published weekly* set every little bookseller's wits to work," engaged Mr. Stackhouse to write *something* which might be published weekly, but what it was they knew not. By Wilford he had been before employed to write "*A preface to Sir William Dawes's Works;*" but "had taken umbrage at Wilford's palming upon the world *a Set of Prayers*, all taken from *other authors*, merely to lengthen out sir William's *Duties of the Closet*, and make the *third* volume swell." Edlin "he knew of old, as the merest Marplot that ever took the publication of any work in hand." This precious pair appointed Stackhouse to meet them at the Castle tavern,* Paternoster-row. "Edlin was for reviving his *Roman History;* and, with heavy imprecations on Dr. Bundy, maintained, that a little brushing up, *i. e.* infusing some life and spirit into Ozell's dull style, the thing would still do in a weekly manner." Wilford would by no means come into that design. His talk ran chiefly on *Devotional Tracts and Family Directors*. To compromise the matter, Mr. Stackhouse proposed *A New History of the Bible;* there being nothing of that kind considerable in the English language, and his own studies for some years, whilst writing his *Body of Divinity*, having qualified him for such a work. Proposals were accordingly drawn up; but a disagreement happening between Wilford† and Edlin, Wilford gave up the undertaking; and Mr. Stackhouse was left, much against his will, in the power of Edlin; who "had printed proposals; got credit of paper; brushed up his old battered letter; picked up a poor compositor or two; sent [to Finchley] a few curious books, and began to be very clamorous for copy." Mr. S. had engaged to supply three sheets a week, provided he were allowed to furnish forty or fifty sheets before any part of it was published. He accordingly set to work, and completed the Introduction. But Edlin was impatient to begin; and "what mercy," says Stackhouse, "he intended to have of his poor author, appeared in the very first

* It was the custom of booksellers, for a very long period. to make all their bargains at a tavern.

† *Memorials of Eminent Persons* was published by John Wilford, in monthly number.

sheet he sent me to correct, which was very near a *whole page* above the *standard stipulation*; insomuch that, had I submitted to this *encroachment*, I had lost, on the impression of the whole book, between £40 and £50 copy money." This imposition led to a quarrel, which was compromised by Edlin's giving *ten copies* of the book, in consideration of the *supernumerary lines*, "to be presented by Mr. Stackhouse to some bishops who had thought favourably of some of his other writings." After the reconciliation, Edlin sent an instrument to be signed, binding Stackhouse, his heirs, &c. in a penalty of £50 to *write well*, and finish the *History of the Bible* for him. But this Stackhouse resolutely declined. For compiling the introduction, few books of any consequence had been wanted; but for the *History* itself Mr. Stackhouse required the ablest *commentators* upon the whole, and *reconcilers* and *critics* upon different texts of scripture; but could obtain from his employer none but bishop Patrick; Edlin suggesting, "that the chief of his subscribers lived in Southwark, Wapping and Ratcliffe Highway; that they had no notion of critics and commentators; that the work should be adapted to their capacity, and therefore the less learning in it the better." When the *introduction* was finished (of which *two numbers* were published without acquainting the author) the breach became incurable. No copy was ready of the *History*; and Stackhouse was informed, that, if he did not care to write for Edlin, he had found out another that would. With some difficulty, *twelve guineas* were obtained for the *twelve sheets* of introduction; Edlin engaged another author; and Stackhouse, who was happy to escape out of the trammels of a tyrant, engaged to pursue his *History* under the more auspicious patronage of Mr. Batley* and Mr. Cox,† booksellers of reputation; and the work was accordingly completed in two folio volumes, which afterwards successively passed through numerous editions. The main purport of Mr. Stackhouse's address to Edlin is, to shew on whose side the infraction of the *agreement* lay.‡ Mr. Stackhouse deserved well of literature—and had a hard fate as to worldly matters, as a small vicarage was his only church preferment. In 1733 he was presented to the vicarage of Benham Valence, *alias* Beenham, in Berkshire, and was buried in the parish church, as appears by a neat tablet, which preserves his memory.

1752, Oct. 21. *The Gray's Inn Journal*, No. 1. These essays were the production of Arthur Murphy, esq. under the assumed name of Charles Ranger, esq. who, in imitation of the *Spectator*, introduces himself as the member of a "club of originals," yet without making much use of this fictitious assemblage. It was continued weekly, for two years, and each paper is divided into two parts; the first containing an essay on some miscellaneous subject; and the second, under the appellation of *True Intelligence*, including many ironical and humorous strictures on the various occurrences of human life. In humour, invention, and variety, the *Gray's Inn Journal* is often superior to the cotemporary papers of Hill and Fielding.

* Jeremy Batley, bookseller, in Paternoster-row, died September 11, 1737.

† Thomas Cox, an eminent bookseller and exchange broker, died February 3, 1754.

‡ See Nichols's *Literary Anecdotes*, vol. ii, pp. 493-99.

1752, *Nov. The Scourge*, by Oxymel Busby, esq. folio, a periodical paper, published on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, at 2d. each number.

1752, *Dec. 1 The Public Advertiser*, No. 1.

1763, *Jan. 4. The World*, No. 1. This paper was continued weekly, on Thursday, for four years, and terminated on Thursday, December 30, 1756, with two hundred and nine number, and a *World Extraordinary*, written by Horace Walpole. Of each essay 2,500 were printed, and sometimes even a greater number was demanded. It was projected by Edward Moore,* author of the *Gamester*, a tragedy, assisted by lord Chesterfield and about thirty eminent literary names. It assumed all the variety of the *Spectator*, being wise or witty, grave or gay, sentimental, literary, or humorous, as the subject required. It was also, in another respect, like the *Spectator*; for Mr. Moore, like sir Richard Steele, was lost in the splendour of his auxiliaries.

1753. The BRITISH MUSEUM established by act of parliament. This national collection of antiquities, books, and natural curiosities, is one of the most valuable and extensive in Europe. It was founded in consequence of the will of sir Hans Sloane,† who left to the nation his museum (which he declared in that instrument had cost him upwards of £50,000,) on condition that parliament paid £20,000 to his executors, and purchased a house sufficiently commodious for it. This proposal was readily adopted: several other valuable collections were united to that of sir Hans Sloane, and the whole establishment completed for the sum of £85,000, which was raised by way of lottery.‡ The additions to the Sloanean museum comprise, the Cottonian library, given by sir Robert Cotton to the public; major Edwards's library of printed books; the Harleian collection of manuscripts; sir William Hamilton's invaluable collection of Greek vases; the Townleian collection of antique marbles; the manuscripts of the late marquis of Lansdowne; the Elgin marbles from Athens; Dr. Burney's classical library; and various other collections. George II. gave the whole of the library of printed books and manuscripts, which had been gradually collected by

* Edward Moore was the son of a dissenting; minister at Abingdon, in Berkshire, where he was born March 22, 1712. He was some years engaged as a linen draper, but relinquished trade for employment more congenial to his talents and inclinations. In 1744 he produced his *Fables for the Female Sex*, which have been allowed a rank only second to those of Gay. From this period his progress as an author was undeviating; and as a poet, a dramatist, and an essayist, he continued through life to amuse and instruct society. It is somewhat remarkable, that when the *World* was published in volumes, Mr. Moore actually died whilst the last number, which details the imaginary death of the author, was passing through the press. He died Feb. 28, 1757.

† Sir Hans Sloane, bart, was an eminent physician and naturalist, born at Killileagh, in the North of Ireland, April 16, 1660, and died at Chelsea, Jan. 11, 1752. He was the first in England who introduced into general practice the use of bark, not only in fevers, but in a variety of other distempers, particularly in nervous disorders, in mortifications, and in violent haemorrhages. He published the *Natural History of Jamaica*, two vols, folio.

‡ The following sums were voted by Parliament: for the Townley statues .£20,000; Lansdowne Manuscripts, £4925-. Greville Minerals £8,200; Elgin Marbles 35000! Burney's Library 13500. To print the Codex Alexandrinus £2000.

our kings from Henry VII. to William III. George III. gave a numerous collection of pamphlets, published in the interval between 1640 and 1760.* That monarch also contributed the two finest mummies in Europe; a sum of money, arising from lottery tickets, which belonged to his royal predecessors, amounting to £1,123; a complete set of the journals of the lords and commons; a collection of natural and artificial curiosities sent to him, in 1796, by Mr. Menzies, from the north-west coast of America; and several single books of great value and utility. In 1803, the government deposited in this building many Egyptian antiquities, which were acquired from the French by the capitulation of Alexandria, in 1802. In 1824, a most valuable and extensive library, formed under the direction of George III., was presented to the museum by George IV., and is deposited in a splendid apartment built purposely to contain it R. P. Knight gave 5,205 valuable Greek coins to the British museum. The Rev. W. H. Carr, 35 ancient pictures. And — White, Esq. £30,000 to build a library room. Numerous collections have been added, at different times, by the trustees of the museum, which is situated in Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury.

The *Synopsis of the Contents of the British Museum*, gives the following account of the Royal Library:—"In this spacious and splendid room is deposited the library formed by his late majesty king George III. which embraces the most extensive and important collection of books ever brought together by any sovereign of the British empire, or indeed of any other country: and this, not confined to publications connected with some particular class of literature, but embracing every species of knowledge. The volumes moreover are, in general, in the best possible condition, and in very frequent instances of the most superb description, being vellum or large paper copies; the whole forming a monument worthy the judgment, the taste, and the liberal mind of the royal founder, and also of the unparalleled munificence of his majesty king George IV., who by the following letter, addressed to the late lord Liverpool, presented this library to the British nation.

"Pavilion, Brighton, Jan. 15, 1823.

"Dear Lord Liverpool,

"The King, my late revered and excellent father, having formed, during a long series of years, a most valuable and extensive Library, I have resolved to present this collection to the British nation.

"Whilst I have the satisfaction by this means of advancing the literature of my country, I also feel that I am paying a just tribute to the memory of a parent, whose life was adorned with every public and private virtue.

"I desire to add, that I have great pleasure, my Lord, in making this communication through you.

* See page 564 *ante*.

“Believe me, with great regard,

“Your sincere friend,

“G. R.

“*The Earl of Liverpool, K. G. &c. &c.*”

The books are systematically arranged in 304 presses, according to subjects, as correctly as could be accomplished in placing them according to their sizes upon their appropriate shelves, amounting to full 250,000 volumes in number.

1753. *Died*, ANDREW JOSEPH PANCKOUCKE, a celebrated bookseller of Lisle, where he was born in the year 1700. He was a person of very considerable learning and talent, and the author of a number of works on subjects of philosophy, history, and belles lettres.

1753, *Sept.* 14. The case of Samuel Richardson, of London, printer, on the invasion of his property in the *History of Sir Charles Grandison*, before publication, by certain booksellers in Dublin. Mr. Richardson had intended to send the volumes of *Sir Charles Grandison*, as he did those of *The History of Clarissa Harlowe*, to be printed in Ireland, before he published them himself in London. Accordingly, when he had printed off so considerable a part of the work, as would have constantly employed the press to which he purposed to consign them, he sent over twelve sheets of the first volume to Mr. George Faulkener; intending to follow it with the rest, as opportunity offered. He had heard an Irish bookseller boast, some years ago, that he could procure, from any printing-office in London, sheets of any book printing in it, while it was going on, and before publication; and Mr. Faulkner cautioning him on this subject with regard to this work, he took particular care to prevent, as he hoped, the effects of such an infamous corruption, as it must be called, since it could not be done but by bribing the journeymen or servants of the London printers. He gave a strict charge, before he put the piece to press, to all his workmen and servants, as well in print (that it might the stronger impress them,) as by word of mouth, to be on their guard against any out-door attacks. This was the substance of the printed caution which he gave to his workmen on this occasion: “A bookseller of Dublin has assured me, that he could get the sheets of any book from any printing-house in London, before publication. I hope I may depend upon the care and circumspection of my friends, compositors and pressmen, that no sheets of the piece I am now putting to press be carried out of the house; nor any notice taken of its being at press. It is of great consequence to me. Let no stranger be admitted into any of the workrooms. Once more, I hope I may rely on the integrity and care of all my workmen—And let all the proofs, revises, &c. be given to Mr. Tewley [his foreman] to take care of.” He had no reason to distrust their assurances; most of them being persons of experienced honesty; and was pleased with their declared abhorrence of so vile a treachery, and of all those who should attempt to corrupt them. Yet, to be

still more secure, as he thought, he ordered the sheets, as they were printed off, to be deposited in a separate warehouse; the care of which was entrusted to one, on whom he had laid such obligations, as, if he is guilty, has made his perfidy a crime of the blackest nature.—Peter Bishop, whose business was to read proofs to the corrector, and to employ his leisure hours in the warehouses; and who (and no other person) being entrusted with the sheets of *Sir Charles Grandison*, as wrought off; and to lay by three sheets of each of the twelves edition, and one of the octavo, for Mr. Richardson's sole use, had an opportunity which no other man, however inclined, could have, to perpetrate this baseness. Mr. Richardson, on suspicions too well-grounded, dismissed Bishop from his service; and after he was gone, having reason to suspect Thomas Killingbeck, one of the compositors, as the confederate of Bishop, and by whose means, he having worked in Ireland, it was easy for him to manage this piece of treachery; and Killingbeck, on examination, gave him cause to strengthen his suspicions; yet asserting his innocence, he proposed to him the said Killingbeck to draw up himself such in affidavit as he could safely take, to exculpate himself. Killingbeck made poor excuses and pretences; but, at last, took till the next morning to draw it up. The next morning he told Mr. Richardson, that he was advised not to draw up such an affidavit; and gave such evasive reasons, as induced every body to believe him guilty. Upon this, Mr. Richardson discharged him from his service. He left his house, pretending, he would draw up something, as he desired; but never since came near it; and is now applying for work elsewhere. Since writing the above, Mr. Richardson has received a letter from Bishop, on occasion of some friend of his advising him to an ample confession; and to depend on that forgiving temper which he had before experienced; in which, among other avowals of his innocence, he thus expresses himself: "I never gave Mr. K. one sheet of *Grandison*; and he must have stole them out of the warehouse; for, upon recollection, the key of the bridge warehouse [in which were the first the volumes], for the conveniency of Arthur [the principal warehouse keeper], who keeps his clothes there, hung upon a nail, in the one pair of stairs warehouse; and any person putting his arm through an opening in the wainscot, and standing on the stairs, may easily reach it [a great negligence, at least, in Bishop, after such warning, and repeated caution]; and 'tis not impossible but Mr. K. might see me take the key from thence, and make use of it at a proper opportunity. If he proves to be the villain (adds Bishop), as I have great reason to think he will, by refusing to take an oath, I hope proper care will be taken to hinder his escape, &c.—If Bishop should be innocent (against other presumptions, from which he will hardly be able to clear himself) it cannot but be observed, that the cause given to suspect unguilty persons is not one of the least mischiefs that attend the baseness of such cruel and clandestine invaders.

Having three printing-houses, he had them composed and wrought, by different workmen, and at his different houses; and took such other precautions, that the person to whose trust be committed them, being frequently questioned by him as to the safety of the work from pirates, as frequently assured him, that it was impossible the copy of any complete volume could be come at, were there persons in his house

capable of bring corrupted to attempt so vile a robbery. What then must be his surprise when in intelligence was sent him from Dublin, that copies of a considerable part of his work had been obtained by three different persons in that city; and that the sheets were actually in the press? The honest men published their own names, in three different title-pages, stuck up in Dublin, in the following words: "Dublin, Aug. 4, 1753. Speedily will be published. *The History of Sir Charles Grandison*. In a Series of Letters published from the Originals, by the Editor of *Pamela* and *Clarissa*. In seven volumes. Dublin: printed by and for Henry Saunders, at the corner of Christ Church-lane." The second: "Aug. 4th, 1753. In the press, *The History of Sir Charles Grandison*" (as in the other.) "Dublin: printed by John Exshaw, on Cork Hill." The third: "Dublin, Aug. 4th, 1753. In the press, and speedily will be published, *The History of Sir Charles Grandison*," (as in the two others.) "London: printed for S. Richardson:" vile artifice!] "Dublin: Reprinted for Peter Wilson, in Dame-street." The editor had convincing proofs given him, that one of these men had procured a copy of a considerable part of the work in octavo; another in duodecimo; and that they were proceeding to print it at several presses. Terms having been agreed upon between Mr. G. Faulkner and the editor, in consideration of the preference to be given him (one of which related to the time of publishing the Dublin edition, that it might not interfere with the appearance of the London one) Mr. Faulkner, in consequence of the successful corruption, signified to the editor, that it was needless to send him any more than the twelve sheets he had sent him; and that he had obtained a fourth share of these *honourable* confederates: but that (to procure this grace, as is supposed) he had been compelled, as he calls it, to deliver up to them, to print by, the copy of the twelve sheets aforesaid, which had some few corrections in them, which occurred on a last revisal; but which are of no moment with regard to the history; though possibly this *worthy* confederacy may make use of those few corrections in those twelve sheets, in order to recommend their surreptitious edition as preferable to that of the proprietor. Of what will not men be capable, who can corrupt the servants of another man to betray and rob their master? The editor, who had also great reason to complain of the treatment he met with in his *Pamela*, on both sides the water, cannot but observe, that never was work more the property of any man than this is his. The copy never was in any other hand: he borrows not from any other author: the paper, the printing, entirely at his own expense, to a very large amount; returns of which he cannot see in several months: yet not troubling any of his friends to lessen his risque by a subscription: the work thus immorally invaded, is a moral work: he has never hurt any man; nor offended these: they would have had benefits from the sale, which the editor could not have, being not a bookseller; and he always making full and handsome allowances to booksellers. But nothing less, it seems, would content these men, than an attempt to possess themselves of his whole property, without notice, leave, condition, or offer at condition; and they are hastening the work at several presses, possibly with a view to publish their piratical edition before the lawful proprietor can publish his. And who can say, that if they can get it out before him, they will not advertise, that his is a piracy upon theirs? Yet these men know, that they have obtained the parts of the work they are possessed of at the price of making no

less than forty workmen, in the editor's house, uneasy, and some of them suspected: of making an innocent man unsafe in his own house: of dishonouring him in the opinion of his employers (who, probably, may not choose to trust their property in the hands of a man, who cannot secure his own from intestine traitors): and the baseness; and whom, in that case, no other master will care to employ. These, among others that might be enumerated, are the mischiefs to which this vile and rapacious act of clandestine wickedness will subject an innocent man. Since the above was written, Mr. Richardson has been acquainted, that his work is now printing at four several printing-houses, in Dublin, for the benefit of the confederacy; viz. two volumes at Mrs. Reiley's; one at Mr. Williamson's; one at Mr. Powell's; one at Mr. M'Culloch's; and that they hope at Mrs. Reiley's to get another volume to print; and are driving on to finish their two volumes for that purpose. The work will make seven volumes in twelves; six in octavo; and he apprehends, from the quantity he himself had printed when the fraud was discovered, that the confederacy have got possession of five entire volumes, the greatest part of the sixth, and of several sheets of the seventh and last; but the work being stopped when the wickedness was known, they cannot have the better half of the concluding volume. He is further assured, that these worthy men are in treaty with booksellers in Scotland) for their printing his work in that part of the United Kingdom, from copies that they are to furnish; and also, that they purpose to send a copy to France, to be translated there before publication; no doubt for pecuniary considerations; and in order to propagate, to the utmost, the injury done to one, who never did any to them; and who, till this proceeding, he blesses God, knew not that there were such men in the world; at least, among those who could look out in broad and open day. It has been customary for the Irish booksellers to make a scramble among themselves who should first entitle himself to the reprinting of a new English book; and happy was he, who could get his agents in England to send him a copy of a supposed saleable piece, as soon as it was printed, and ready to be published. This kind of property was never contested with them by authors in England; and it was agreed among themselves (that is, among the Irish booksellers and printers) to be a sufficient title; though now and then a *shark* was found, who preyed on his own kind; as the newspapers of Dublin have testified. But the present case will show to what a height of baseness such an undisputed licence is arrived. After all, if there is no law to right the editor and sole proprietor of this new work (*new* in every sense of the word,) he must acquiesce; but with this hope, that, from so flagrant an attempt, that a law may one day be thought necessary, in order to secure to authors the benefit of their own labours: nor does he wish, that even these invaders of his property in Ireland may be excluded from the benefit of it, in the property of any of the works to which they are, or shall be, fairly and lawfully entitled. At present, the English writers may be said, from the attempts and practices of the Irish booksellers and printers, to live in an age of *liberty*, but not of *property*.

N.B. This is not a contention between booksellers of England and Ireland, and on a doubtful property; but between a lawful proprietor of a new and moral work—and Let Messieurs Wilson, Exshaw, and Saunders, reflecting upon the steps they have

taken, and making the case their own (for they no doubt have servants)—fill up the blank.

1753, Nov. 7. *The Adventurer*. This admired paper was the production of Dr. Hawkesworth.* It is adorned with many eastern tales, and some valuable critical communications. It was printed on a folio sheet, for J. Payne, at Pope's Head, in Paternoster-row; appeared every Tuesday and Saturday, and closed with No. 140, signed by Dr. Hawkesworth as editor. The price of each essay was twopence, and its sale in separate papers was very extensive. Dr. Johnson contributed twenty-nine numbers to the *Adventurer*, which are distinguished by the letter T; and the sum that

* John Hawkesworth was born in the year 1719; he was intended for the profession of the law, and placed with Mr. Harwood, an attorney in the Poultry. Soon disgusted with the employment, he deserted it for the more precarious, though more pleasing, occupation of literature. At the age of twenty-five he had obtained no small reputation as a literary character, for at this period, namely, in the year 1744, he was engaged by the editor of the *Gentleman's Magazine* to succeed Dr. Johnson in the compilement of the parliamentary debates; then deemed a very important part of that interesting miscellany. He was for four years, also, a *poetical* contributor under the signature of *Greville*. The success of the *Rambler* as soon as it was collected into volumes, the admiration which he was known to entertain of pursuing the footsteps of Johnson, induced him to project and commence a periodical paper under the title of the *Adventurer*, which rose under his fostering care, and he need not fear a comparison with the *Rambler* and *Spectator*. Dr. Herring being highly pleased with the instructive tendency of the *Adventurer*, conferred upon its author the degree of Doctor of Civil Law. The reputation which he had acquired by these essays, held out strong inducements to the prosecutions of his literary career; and in the year 1766, at the request of Garrick, he turned his attention to the stage, and produced *Zimri*, an oratorio, and other pieces, and there is every reason to suppose that had he pursued dramatic composition, he might have attained to distinguished excellence as a disciple of Melpomene. In April, 1765, he undertook the office of reviewer in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, a department which he filled with great ability until the year 1772. In 1785 he presented to the public a revised edition of *Swift's* works, in 13 vols. 8vo. accompanied by explanatory notes, and a *Life of Swift*, of which Johnson speaks in very liberal terms. The celebrity which Dr. Hawkesworth had now attained, as a literary character, was aided by the friendship of Garrick, who recommended him to lord Sandwich. who was the means of procuring for him one of the most honourable and lucrative engagements that has been recorded in the annals of literature. The anxiety of the public to be acquainted with the events which had befallen the navigator of the southern hemisphere, at the commencement of the present reign, was greatly increased by the return of Lieutenant Cook from his first voyage round the globe, in May, 1771; and Government in the following year entrusted to Hawkesworth the task of gratifying the general curiosity. A few attempts, in the mean time, had been made, though with little success, to anticipate the authenticated narrative, which came forth so early as 1773, under the following title:—*An Account of the Voyages undertaken by the Order of his present Majesty for making Discoveries in the Southern Hemisphere, &c. Drawn up from the Journals which were kept by the several Commanders, and from the Papers of Joseph Banks, Esq.* By John Hawkesworth, LL.D. Illustrated with cuts, and a great variety of charts and maps relative to countries now first discovered, or hitherto but imperfectly known. 4to. 3 vols. In order that a work which might properly be termed *national* should appear with every requisite illustration, government withheld no necessary expense. Dr. Hawkesworth had the princely remuneration of six thousand pounds; and the charts, engravings, and maps, were execute in a very splendid, and, with a few exceptions, in a very correct manner. The first volume includes the journals of Byron, Wallis, and Carteret, and the second and third are occupied by the still more interesting voyage of Cook. Dr. Hawkesworth died November 16, 1773.

he received for their composition, which was two guineas per paper, he presented to Dr. R. Bathurst, who is supposed to have acted as his amanuensis on the occasion.

1753. *The Protestor*. By James Ralph.

1753, *Nov. 8. Died*, SAMUEL ASHURST, an eminent stationer in Paternoster-row.

1754, *Jan. 10. Died*, EDWARD CAVE, projector and proprietor of the *Gentleman's Magazine*. The curiosity of the public seems to demand a history of every man who has, by whatever means, risen to eminence; and few lives would have more readers than that of the compiler of this miscellany, if all those who received improvement or entertainment from him should retain so much kindness for their benefactor is to inquire after his conduct and character. The *Gentleman's Magazine*, which has subsisted so many years, and which still continues to enjoy the favour of the world, is one of the most prosperous and lucrative pamphlets which literary history has upon record.

Edward Cave, according to Dr. Johnson, was born at Newton, in Warwickshire, on the 29th of February, 1691. His father (Joseph Cave) was the younger son of Mr. Edward Cave, of Cave's-in-the-Hole, a lone house, on the Street-road, in the same county, which took its name from the occupier; but having concurred with his elder brother in cutting off the entail of a small hereditary estate, by which act it was lost from the family, he was reduced to follow the trade of shoe-making, in Rugby. He lived to a great age; and was, in his latter years, supported by his son.

It was fortunate for Cave, continues his biographer, that, having a disposition to literary attainments, he was not precluded by the poverty of his parents from opportunities of cultivating his faculties. The school of Rugby, in which he had, by the rules of its foundation, a right to be instructed, was then in high reputation, under the rev. Mr. Holyock, to whose care must of the neighbouring families, even of the highest rank, entrusted their sons. He had judgment to discover, and for some time generosity to encourage, the genius of young Cave; and was so well pleased with his quick progress in the school, that he declared his resolution to breed him for the university, and recommend him as a servitor to some of his scholars of high rank. But prosperity which depends upon the caprice of others is of short duration. Cave's superiority in literature exalted him to an invidious familiarity with boys who were far above him in rank and expectations; and, as in unequal associations it always happens, whatever unlucky prank was played was imputed to Cave. When any mischief, great or small, was done, though perhaps others boasted of the stratagem when it was successful, yet, upon detection or miscarriage, the fault was sure to fall upon poor Cave. At last, by some invisible means, his mistress lost a favourite cock; and Cave was, with little examination, stigmatized as the thief or murderer; not, indeed, because he was more apparently criminal than others, but because he was more easily reached by vindictive justice. From that time, however, Mr. Holyock withdrew his kindness visibly from him, and treated him with an harshness, which

the crime, in its utmost aggravation, could scarcely deserve; and which, surely, he would have forborne, had he considered how hardly the habitual influence of birth and fortune is resisted, and how frequently men, not wholly without some sense of virtue, are betrayed into arts more atrocious than the robbery of a henroost, with the view of pleasing their superiors.

Under pretence that Cave obstructed the discipline of the school by selling clandestine assistance, and supplying exercises to idlers, he was oppressed with unreasonable tasks, that there might be an opportunity of quarrelling with his failure; and even when his diligence had surmounted them, no regard was paid to the performance. Cave bore this persecution awhile, and then left the school, and the hope of a literary education, to seek some other means of acquiring his living. He was first placed with a collector of the excise. He used afterwards to recount, with some pleasure, a journey or two which he rode with him as his clerk; and relate the victories that he gained over his new master, in grammatical disputations; but this place he soon left, and was bound apprentice to Mr. Collins, a printer of some reputation, and deputy alderman. Printing was a trade for which men were formerly prepared by literary education, and which was pleasing to Cave, because it furnished some employment for his scholastic attainments. Here, therefore, he resolved to settle; though his master and mistress lived in perpetual discord, and their house presented no very comfortable abode.

From the inconveniences of these domestic tumults, he was, happily, soon relieved; having, in only two years, attained so much skill in his art, and acquired such confidence with his master, that he was sent, without any superintendent, to conduct a printing-office at Norwich, and publish a weekly paper. In this undertaking he had to encounter some opposition, which, producing a controversy, ended in conferring upon young Cave the reputation of an author. His master dying before his apprenticeship was expired, and finding the perverseness of his mistress to be insupportable, Cave quitted her house upon a stipulated allowance, and married a young widow, with whom he lived at Bow. When his time was out, he worked as a journeyman with the famous alderman Barber, who was so much patronized by the Tories, and whose principles had such an ascendancy with Cave, just at this time, that he was for some years a writer in *Mist's Journal*; which, though he incidentally obtained by his wife's interest a small place in the post-office, he for some time continued; but he by degrees inclined to another party, in which, however, he was always moderate, though steady and determined.

He corrected, during this period, the *Gradus ad Parnassum*, for which he was liberally remunerated by the stationers' company. He also wrote an *Account of the Criminals*, which had for some time a considerable sale; and he published many little pamphlets, which accident brought into his way. He was at length raised to the office of clerk of the franks, in which he acted with great spirit; often stopping franks, which were given by members of parliament to their friends, because he thought too

much extension of this privilege to be illegal. Having in this manner ventured to detain a frank that had been given to the celebrated duchess of Marlborough by Mr. Walter Plummer, he was cited before the house of commons; and accused, however, unjustly, of opening letters to detect them. Cave was here treated with great harshness and severity; but declining their questions, by pleading his oath of secrecy, was at last dismissed; and it must be recorded to his honour, that, although he was ejected from his situation, he did not conceive himself to be thereby discharged from his trust, but continued to refuse to his nearest friends any information about the management of the office. By his constancy of diligence, and diversity of employment, he in time collected money sufficient for the purchase of a small printing-office, and began his *Gentleman's Magazine*; a periodical pamphlet, of which the scheme is known wherever the English language is understood. To this undertaking he owed the affluence in which he passed the last twenty years of his life; and the fortune he left behind him, though large, had yet been larger, had he not rashly impaired it by numerous absurd and unsuccessful projects.

In 1741. his wife died of an asthma. He seemed not, at first, much affected by her loss; but, in a few days, he forewent both his appetite and sleep. After lingering for about two years, with many vicissitudes of amendment and relapse, he fell, by the use of acid liquors, into a diarrhoea, followed by a kind of lethargic insensibility. At the time of his death he had just concluded the twenty-third annual collection. He was buried in the church of St. James's, Clerkenwell; but the following inscription, from the pen of Dr. Hawksorth, is placed at Rugby, in Warwickshire.

Near this place lies the body of
 JOSEPH CAVE,
 late of this parish,
 who departed this life Nov. 18, 1747,
 aged 79 years.

He was placed by Providence in a humble station;
 but Industry abundantly supplied the wants of Nature,
 and Temperance blessed him with Content and Wealth.
 As he was an affectionate Father,
 he was made happy in the decline of life by the deserved
 eminence of his eldest son,

EDWARD CAVE

who, without interest, fortune, or connexion,
 by the native force of his own genius, assisted only by
 a classical education, which he received at the Grammar
 School of this town, planned, executed, and established
 a literary work, called,

The Gentleman's Magazine,

whereby he acquired an ample fortune,
 the whole of which devolved to his family.

Here also lies the body of

WILLIAM CAVE,

the second son of the said JOSEPH CAVE,

who died May 2, 1657,
aged 62 years;
and who, having survived his elder brother,
EDWARD CAVE,
inherited from him a competent estate;
and, in gratitude to his benefactor,
ordered this monument to perpetuate his memory.

He lived a patriarch in his numerous race,
And show'd in charity a Christian's grace;
Whate'er a friend or parent feels, he knew;
His hand was open, and his heart was true.
On what he gain'd and gave, he taught mankind,
A grateful always is a generous mind.
Here rests his clay! His soul must ever rest.
Who bless'd when living, dying must be blest.

Cave was a man of large stature, not only tall, but bulky; and was, when young, of remarkable strength and activity. He was generally healthful, and capable of much labour, and long application; but in the latter year of his life he was afflicted by the gout, which he endeavoured to cure or alleviate in a total abstinence from strong liquors and animal food. From animal food he abstained about four years, and from strong liquors much longer; but the gout continued unconquered, and, perhaps, unabated. His resolution and perseverance were very uncommon; in whatever he undertook, neither expense nor fatigue were able to repress him; but his constancy was calm, and, to those who did not know him, appeared faint and languid; yet he always went forward, though he moved slowly. The same chilliness of mind was observable in his conversation: he was watching the minutest accent of those whom he offended by seeming inattention; and his visitant was surprised, when he came a second time, by preparations to execute the scheme which he supposed never to have been heard. He was, consistently with this general tranquillity of mind, a tenacious maintainer, though not a clamorous demander, of his right. Having in his youth summoned his fellow-journeymen to concert measures against the oppression of their masters, he mounted the imposing stone, whence he harangued them so efficaciously, that they determined to resist all future invasions; and when the stamp-officers demanded to stamp the last half-sheet of a magazine, young Cave alone defeated their claim. He was a friend rather easy and constant, than zealous and active; yet many instances might be given, where both his money and his interest were liberally employed for others. His enmity was, in like manner, cool and deliberate; but, though cool, it was not insidious; and though deliberate, not pertinacious. His mental faculties were slow. If he saw little at a time, however, that little he saw with great exactness. He was long in finding the right, but seldom failed to find it at last. His affections were not easily gained, and his opinions not quickly discovered. His reserve, as it might hide his faults, concealed his virtues; but such he was, as they who best knew him, have most lamented.

1754. JAMES DAVIES set up a press at Newbern, being the first used throughout the whole province of North Carolina, in North America. He appears not to have printed much, except a folio volume of the *Laws of North Carolina*.

1754. J. PARKER, who was the principal master printer in New York, established the second printing-office in the province of Connecticut, at Newhaven, in North America, and the first book printed was the *Laws of Yale college*, in Latin. On the first of January, 1765, he commenced a newspaper at Newhaven.

1754, Jan. 31. *The Connoisseur*, No. 1. This publication was projected and almost entirely written by George Colman* and Bonnell Thornton,† under the fictitious name of Mr. Town, critic and censor-general, and continued weekly for nearly three years; No. 140, the concluding essay, being dated Thursday, Sept. 30, 1756.

The title *Connoisseur*, now generally appropriated to a judge of the fine arts, was, by Messrs. Colman and Thornton, employed in the sense of a critic on the manners and minor morals of mankind; and to this acceptation of the term the motto which they have chosen pointedly alludes, and is still further opened by the subsequent paraphrase as given in their first number.

Non de villis domibusve alienis. Nec male necne Lepos saltet;
sed quod magis ad nos Pertinet, et nescire malum est, agitamus.—HOR.

Who better known to build. or who to dance.
Or this from *Italy*, or that from *France*.
Our CONNOISSEUR will ne'er pretend to scan.
But point the follies of mankind to man;
Th' important knowledge, of ourselves explain;
Which not to know all knowledge is but vain.

* George Colman was born at Florence, about 1733, where his father was British resident at the court of the grand duke of Tuscany, and received his education at Westminster and Oxford. Being intended for the legal profession, he entered at Lincoln's-inn, and was afterwards called to the bar; it was long, however, before he deserted the law for the more alluring pursuit of literary fame; and in 1760 he attracted the attention of the public by his *Polly Honeycombe*, which was received with such applause, that, from this period, he became a most assiduous and successful writer for the stage. This fertility in dramatic composition neither originated from narrow circumstances, nor did it preclude his attention to classical studies. The year 1765 produced his *Translations of the Comedies of Terence*, a work of acknowledged excellence, and which acquired him much credit as a scholar and a critic. To his celebrity as a classical scholar, he added greatly, in 1783, by a poetical version of *Homer's Art of Poetry*, with a commentary and critical notes, Mr. Caiman died August 14, 1704.

† Bonnell Thornton was the son of an apothecary, and born in London, in the year 1724, and passed with reputation through Westminster, and Christ church, Oxford, where he commenced his literary career in the first number of the *Student*. He soon became celebrated as a poet, an essayist, and a miscellaneous writer. He published a translation in blank verse of seven of the plays of Plautus in two vols. 8vo. He died May 7, 1768, and was buried in Westminster abbey.

1754, *Feb.* 16. *Died*, DR. RICHARD MEAD, a physician of great eminence, and a most generous patron of learning and learned men in all sciences and in every country; by the peculiar magnificence of his disposition, making the private gains of his profession answer the end of a princely fortune, and valuing them only as they enabled him to become more extensively useful, and thereby to satisfy that greatness of mind which will transmit his name to posterity with a lustre not inferior to that which attends the most distinguished character of antiquity. His large and spacious house in Great Ormond-street, became a repository of all that was curious in nature, or in art; to which his extensive correspondence with the learned men in all parts of Europe not a little contributed. No foreigner of any learning, taste, or even curiosity, ever came to England without being introduced to Dr. Mead. The clergy, and in general all men of learning, were welcome to his advice; and his doors were open every morning to the indigent, whom he frequently assisted with money; so that, notwithstanding his great gains, he did not die very rich. During almost half a century he was at the head of his profession; which brought him in one year upwards of £7000, and between £5000 and £6000 for several years. He built a gallery for his favourite furniture, his pictures, and his antiquities. His library consisted of 10,000 volumes, and with the prints, drawings, gems, bronzes, busts, and antiquities, produced the following sums at the sale of his effects:

| | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| The books sold for | £5518 10 11 |
| Medals | 1977 17 0 |
| Antiques | 3246 15 6 |
| Pictures | 3417 11 0 |
| Prints | 1908 14 6 |
| | <hr/> |
| | £16069 8 11 |

The sale began Nov. 18, 1754, and ended Feb. 10, 1755. It is remarkable that many of his books sold for much more than he gave for them.* His pictures produced about

* The following letter, written by Horace Walpole, will serve to explain why, in some cases, at public sales, a book will produce a price far beyond its value, without any sufficient reason being apparent at the time.

“I cannot conclude my letter without telling you, what an escape I had, at the sale of Dr. Mead’s library, which goes extremely dear. In the catalogue I saw *Winstanley’s Views of Audley End*, which I concluded was a thin dirty folio, worth about fifteen shillings. As I thought it might be scarce, it might run to two or three guineas; however, I bid Graham *certainly* buy it for me. He came the next morning in a great fright—said he did not know, whether he had done right or very wrong,—that he had gone as far as *nine and forty guineas*. I started in such a fright! Another bookseller had, luckily, as unlimited a commission, and bid fifty, when my Graham begged it might be adjourned, till they could consult their principals. I think I shall never give an unbounded commission again, even for *Views of les Rochers!*—Adieu,

“Yours ever,

“HORACE WALPOLE.”

£600 more than they had cost him. Dr. Mead was twice married. By his first lady he had ten children of whom three survived him. By the second lady, he had no issue. Seven days after the world was deprived of this eminent physician, he was buried in the Temple church, near his brother Richard, a counsellor at law. To Dr. Mead there is no monument in the Temple; but an honorary one was placed by his son in the north aisle of Westminster abbey. He was born at Stepney, August 11, 1673.

1754, *March 2. The Manchester Journal*, No. 1, printed by J. Scholfield and M. Turnbull, at their printing-office, down the Fountain-court, at the backside of the exchange; and published at their shop in Deansgate every Saturday morning. No price affixed. Discontinued in 1756.

1754, *March 30.* The duke of Dorset, lord lieutenant of Ireland, issued a proclamation offering a reward of £500 for the author, and £200 for the printer, for publishing a libel upon the government.

1754, *Sept. The Entertainer*, No. 1, by Charles Mercury, esq. To be continued every Tuesday, price three halfpence; published by Mr. Mechell.

1754, *Oct 8. Died*, HENRY FIELDING, author of the novels of *Tom Jones*, *Amelia*, and *Joseph Andrews*, whose extraordinary powers in fictitious narrative “unveiled to the public a rein of humour and invention, and a facility and truth in the delineation of character, which rivalled the happiest effusions of Cervantes and Addison.” He was born at Sharpham park, near Glastonbury, in Somersetshire, April 22, 1707. After a classical education at Eton college, he was sent to study the civil law at Leyden, but owing to his pecuniary affairs he returned to England, at the end of two years. Being thus unfortunately circumstanced, Henry Fielding aggravated the evils of poverty by a strong propensity to extravagance and dissipation. Though under age, he found himself his own master, in London, where the temptations to pleasure were numerous, and the means of gratification easily attained. The brilliancy of his talents soon brought him into request with men of taste and literature; but it was not to men of taste and literature only that his acquaintance was confined. He united with the voluptuous, as well as with the learned and the witty, and plunged into excesses, the bad effects of which accompanied him the remainder of his life. To supply a fund for his indulgences; he became at the early age of twenty a writer for the stage; and altogether produced not less than twenty-six comedies and farces, few of which are now remembered. In 1734 he married a Miss Cradock, of Salisbury, with whom he obtained £1500, and an estate at Stower, in Dorsetshire, of £200 a-year, which, by a profuse expenditure, in about three years he found himself entirely stripped of his wife’s fortune and his own patrimony. In 1737 he was entered of the Temple; and his application, whilst a student there, was remarkably intense. After the customary time of probation he was called to the bar. The early taste he had taken of pleasure would sometimes return upon him, and conspire with his spirits and vivacity to carry him

into the wild enjoyments of the town* Under the pressure of pain and adverse circumstances, Fielding still found resources in his genius and abilities. His pen never lay idle; but was always producing, as it were, extempore, a play, a farce, a pamphlet, or a political newspaper. It may be observed, to the honour of Fielding, that in the prologue to his *Modern Husband* he expresses a sense of the irregularity and indecency of some of his former compositions:

At length, repenting frolic flights of youth,
Once more he flies to Nature and to Truth;
In Virtue's just defence aspires to fame,
And courts applause without the applauder's shame.

By the time that Mr. Fielding had attained the age of forty-three, he had been so incessantly pursued by reiterated attacks of the gout, that he was rendered wholly incapable of continuing any longer in the practice of a barrister; and he, therefore, accepted of an office not a little unpopular, namely, that of an active magistrate in the commission of the peace for Middlesex, a situation which subjected him to the reproach of crimes of which he was innocent. A complication of disorders produced a dropsy, and he was advised by his physicians to undertake a voyage to Lisbon, in hopes that the mildness and stability of the climate might renovate his powers; the experiment failed, and he lived but two months after his arrival in Portugal. Though guilty of numerous errors in the early period of his life, for which he afterwards severely atoned, the morals and religious principles of Fielding were never shaken; for many of his works prove him to have been really a lover of virtue, and a believer of revealed religion. "The cultivated genius of Fielding, says Dr. Knox, "entitles him to a high rank among the classics. His works exhibit a series of pictures drawn with all the descriptive fidelity of a Hogarth. They are highly entertaining, and will always be read with pleasure; but they likewise disclose scenes, which may corrupt a mind unseasoned by experience." "As a writer," says Dr. Drake, "he is truly original, and in the comic epopeia, without a rival."

* Some parochial taxes for Fielding's house, in Beaufort buildings being unpaid, and for which demands had been made again and again. Fielding was at length given to understand, by the collector, who had an esteem for him, that no longer procrastination could be admitted. In this dilemma he had recourse to Jacob Tonson, and mortgaging the future sheets of some work he had in hand, received the sum he wanted, which might be ten or twelve guineas. When he was near his own house, he met with an old college chum, whom he had not seen for many years. They retired to a neighbouring tavern, and gave free scope to their conviviality. In the course of the conversation, Mr. Fielding found that his friend had been unfortunate in life, upon which he immediately gave him the whole of the money he had obtained from Mr. Tonson. Early in the morning he returned home in the full enjoyment of his benevolent disposition and conduct, when he was told that the collector had called for the taxes twice on the preceding day. His reply was laconic, but memorable: "Friendship has called for the money, and had it; let the collector call again." A second application to Jacob Tonson enabled him to satisfy the parish demands.